

The excavation of early 19th century cottages at Millbrae and the survey and excavation of various pre-historic sites at Rosneath Peninsula, Argyll.

Tam Ward with historical contribution by Alistair McIntyre

March 2016

CONTENTS

Abstract & Introduction	Pages 1 – 2
Methodology	Pages 2 – 3
Excavation Area 1	Pages 4 – 7
Excavation Area 2	Pages 7 - 11
Excavation Area 3	Pages 11 - 18
Excavation Area 4	Pages 18 – 30
Excavation Other Trenches	Pages 30 – 37
History	Pages 37 – 42
Discussion	Pages 42 – 46
Conclusion	Pages 46 - 47
Further work	Page 47
Acknowledgements	Page 48
Catalogue	Pages 48 – 87
Woodland survey and excavation report.	Pages 88 - 103
Appendix I. Archaeobotanical Analysis by Dr Jennifer Miller	Pages 103 - 108

**The excavation of early 19th century cottages at Millbrae and the survey and excavation of various pre-historic sites at Rosneath Peninsula, Argyll.
Tam Ward with historical contribution by Alistair McIntyre
March 2016**

Abstract

Excavation of the main building produced evidence mainly in the form of crockery and bottle glass which dates primarily from the early to mid 19th century. A midden dating to the earlier 18th century; circa 1700AD, and also bowl querns indicated occupation of the site prior to the earliest presently known history of 1752. Details of building construction survived a series of negative impacts on the site which included contemporary demolition and the planting and harvesting of a commercial forest. Historical research produced names and occupations of inhabitants of the site which broadly compliment the principal archaeological findings of the first half of the 19th century. Woodland survey discovered two burnt mounds and an iron slag site.

Introduction

The site (Fig's 1-3) is located at NS 25018 81654, at 60m OD, on the SE flank of Tom na h-Airidh (hill), due west of Mill of Camsail and in the Hill of Camsail Plantation (a commercial forest), it is on the SE tip of Rosneath Peninsula in Argyll. The location may be found on OS Explorer Map, Loch Lomond South, and Sheet No 347 (Fig 2).

The area of the site is part of a recently clear felled Sitka Spruce plantation and is comprised of tree stumps spaced at circa 2m intervals. The principal range of buildings is depicted on the 25" 1st Ed OS map (1865, Sheet XVI) (Fig 3) and show at that time they were roofed structures. The buildings were constructed along a restricted terraced area measuring about 35m by 10m, also shown on the 1st Ed map are a series of garden areas and enclosures lying above and below the buildings, another isolated but irregular and sloping terrace lies above the building.

Aspects of the two natural terraces may have been enhanced during occupation of the site. Another building is depicted on 1st Ed OS map on the more level ground below and to the south of the site under investigation (Fig 3); however no visible trace of this was seen. The terraces are aligned NE/SW along the natural contours of the hill.

Historical research on the site is included in this report.

The rationale for excavation by NCAS was based on the discovery of a flint flake and the neck of an early 18th century wine bottle in the vicinity of the site, the hypothesis was that further evidence of pre history and of the 18th century might have been discovered by investigation. In the event the former was not but the latter was. Woodland survey nevertheless resulted in the discovery of various sites including two burnt mounds, being the first to be recorded on Rosneath Peninsula (Appendix I).



Fig's 1 – 3 location maps



Fig 2



Fig 3. 1st Ed OS map

Methodology

The ground between rows of tree stumps was cleared of brash and excavation commenced using hand tools only. However, early in the process numerous tree roots formerly growing over the building area were removed by machine (Pl's 2 & 3), courtesy of Tilhill Forestry and Mr Grant Swan, contractor, thereafter excavation was completed by hand tools.

Finds were recorded for the most part to 'Area' trenches since all the upper surfaces of the ground were clearly disturbed (see Pl 1). Only particular finds were plotted to plan and/or to context where relevant. Additional trenches (Fig 10 & Pl's 50 - 69) were opened along the frontal scarp of the terrace upon which the main building is located; this was to test for any midden deposits. Finds of crockery and glass were also gathered from random locations around the site, none of these were spot recorded.

Particular aspects of the site were drawn at 1:20 scale and the entire project and selected finds were extensively photographed by digital camera; over 450 images of the site details and selected finds are available and are archived with the National Monuments Records of Scotland.

Excavation spoil heaps were created along the entire frontal and rear sides of the main building and the site was left in its excavated condition. The few surviving features within the buildings were left intact however for Area 4, a suspected byre, the surviving floor surfaces were removed to determine if earlier contexts existed.



Plate 1 showing site before work began, looking SW. Compare with Pl 49a



Plate 2 removing tree stumps



Plate 3 removing tree stumps

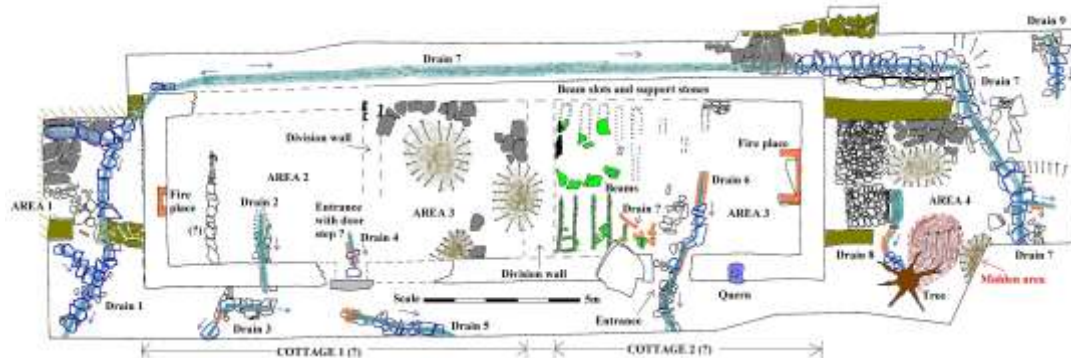


Fig 4. Showing the main building excavation, larger scale drawings follow.

Excavation

The entire site is orientated on a long axis SW – NE (Fig 4) being the alignment of the terrace upon which it was created. A total area of 235 square metres was excavated for the main building and a further 75 square metres for Trenches 1 – 8 (Fig 10).

A series of exploratory trenches were firstly opened along the terrace where bricks and crockery were noted on the surface, the trench locations were dictated by the lines of tree stumps running downhill. However after tree stumps were removed the excavation was divided into areas (1-4) and the frontal trenches (1 – 8) to which all respective finds were recorded.

Area No 1 Fig's 4 & 5

NS 25007 81647 Area of circa 20 square metres in total.

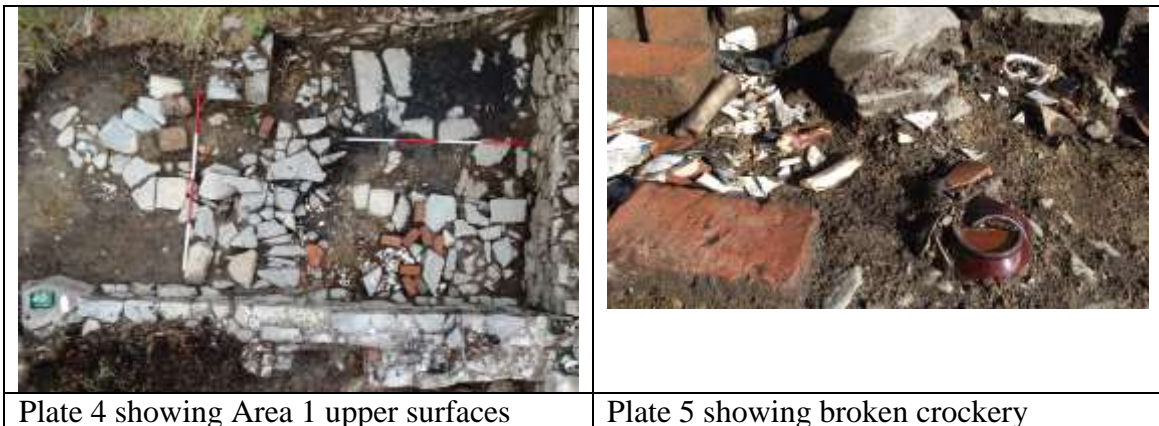
Area 1 comprises of a chamber at the SW end of the main building (Area's 2&3) and includes the ground extending in front of it to a distance of 3m. The chamber measures 3.1m square and it is bounded on one side by the mortared gable wall of the main building and the other sides of the chamber are formed by dry stone walling surviving to a height of 0.8m and 0.5m thick at the rear and end, while the entrance, which is 0.9m wide is shown by a short stump of walling and the basal courses of another. The walls at the entrance varied in thickness between 0.6m and 0.7m and all were neatly built as random rubble using sharply angled quarried stone which lent itself to forming tight joints. The same rock was used in all building walls on the site. In the west corner, bedrock was adopted as part of the wall. The frontage of Area 1 room was set back 1m from the front of the main building; this appears to be what is represented in Fig 3, the OS map.



Fig 5 shows Area 1 drain cover stones in blue, paving slabs in grey, walls in green. See Plates 12 & 13 for drain details.

Area 1 walls (green) adjoining the main building was abutted to it (but without lime mortar) and originally Area 1 was thought to be an earlier phase of construction (but see discussion below).

In the west corner the floor is of well made paving of flat schistose rock (grey) set into the natural gravelly till, the smooth surfaces and rounded edges of the stones show they have been worn by usage. Above this flooring and predominantly in that corner was a dense but thin deposit of coal dross (Pl 4), the area was evidently used as a coal store. The other parts of the room floor had been crudely laid with unconsolidated flat stones and bricks of which probably only part remained. Between and below these stones and in a dark muddy soil lay a quantity of broken crockery and beer bottle glass (Pl 5), with two concentrations being along the side of the mortared wall and the other in the corner beside the entrance but on the opposite side of the room. Later in the excavation similar sherd designs were found in all areas e.g. see Pl 11b.



A quantity of miscellaneous iron objects were also found strewn over the floor surfaces. Two square iron plates which were doors from a fire range lay immediately in front of the entrance and nearby was the corroded remains of a flat iron, a fire poker was also found, nails and spikes were found in all areas (Pl 11a). A complete salt glazed small bottle lay trampled into the entrance space, but relatively few items were found outside the area of the room. Some of the crockery (Pl's 6 – 11b), all of which is probably 19th century, was partially reconstructed (see catalogue and discussion below), indicating that it had not been moved around much after deposition.



Plate 6 MB/Ce/5. Ornate jug



Plate 7 MB/Ce/4. Salt pot?



Plate 8 MB/Ce/2. Large bowl



Plate 9 MB/Ce/1. Large bowl slip ware (possibly 18th C?)



Plate 10 MB/Ce/13. Assorted sherds of decorated plates and bowls etc.



Plate 11 MB/Ce/7&8. Washing jug & bowl



Plate 11 a. Iron objects from Area 1 floor.



Plate 11b. Sherds of this design were found as a variety of tea and coffee cups and saucers throughout the site, see also Pl 25f.

A covered drain; No 1 (Fig's 4 & 5) was set into the till of the floor and ran from the corner beside the mortared wall and down the centre of the room where it passed under the footings of the entrance wall and continued outside where it ran below the area designated as the spoil heap of the excavation, it presumably ran to the edge of the terrace in that direction. A single clay pipe was laid into the till within the entrance of the room and it discharged into the main drain, where another short branch of it led off to the SW side of the building where it terminated. Within the room the drain also bifurcated to include the largest paving stone in the corner. The drain was formed by bedding stones to form edges of a channel which was then capped with flat stones; some parts outside the room were partially constructed using bricks. Parts of the actual drain channel were tiny, in places less than 100mm square and which must have been prone to silting and blocking, the entire drain was completely silted with gravelly till intermixed with coal dross, however a few small sherds of 19th C crockery and glass were included in the fill.

The finds from Area 1 were reflected everywhere else on the excavation apart from the earlier midden deposits in Trench No 1 (below). In general 19th C crockery and bottle glass formed the vast bulk of finds over and around the site, and because of the apparent date of abandonment, all of this material is assumed to be early 19thC in date.



Plate 12. Showing drain in Area 1 with cover stones removed



Plate 13. Shows drain outside Area 1 with cover stones removed

Area No 2 Fig's 4 & 6

NS 25012 81650 Area of circa 56 square metres in total.

Area 2 was part of the internal space of the mortared building and its walls but within a chamber which was shown to be 5.7m long by 4.7m wide, however the ground behind and in front of the building was also excavated, each part will be dealt with separately.

The surviving SW gable wall of the building was neatly made with angular slabs of stone set in a good quality lime mortar; the mortar bonding could be traced in the long walls for only a short distance since the walls were poorly preserved, however occasional small patches of lime adhered to surviving stone surfaces indicating that lime was used on the long walls. Set centrally into the gable was a fireplace made with unmarked hand made bricks, the space measured in total 0.95m wide and by 0.4m deep, but the actual hearth was much smaller being only 0.4m wide by 0.2m deep, the hearthstone did not indicate scorching by cracking or discolouration, suggesting that an iron range had been installed, parts of which were found nearby.

A division wall was only just indicated by a corner surviving at the back wall, a single stone of the other side indicated the wall thickness to have been c 0.5m.

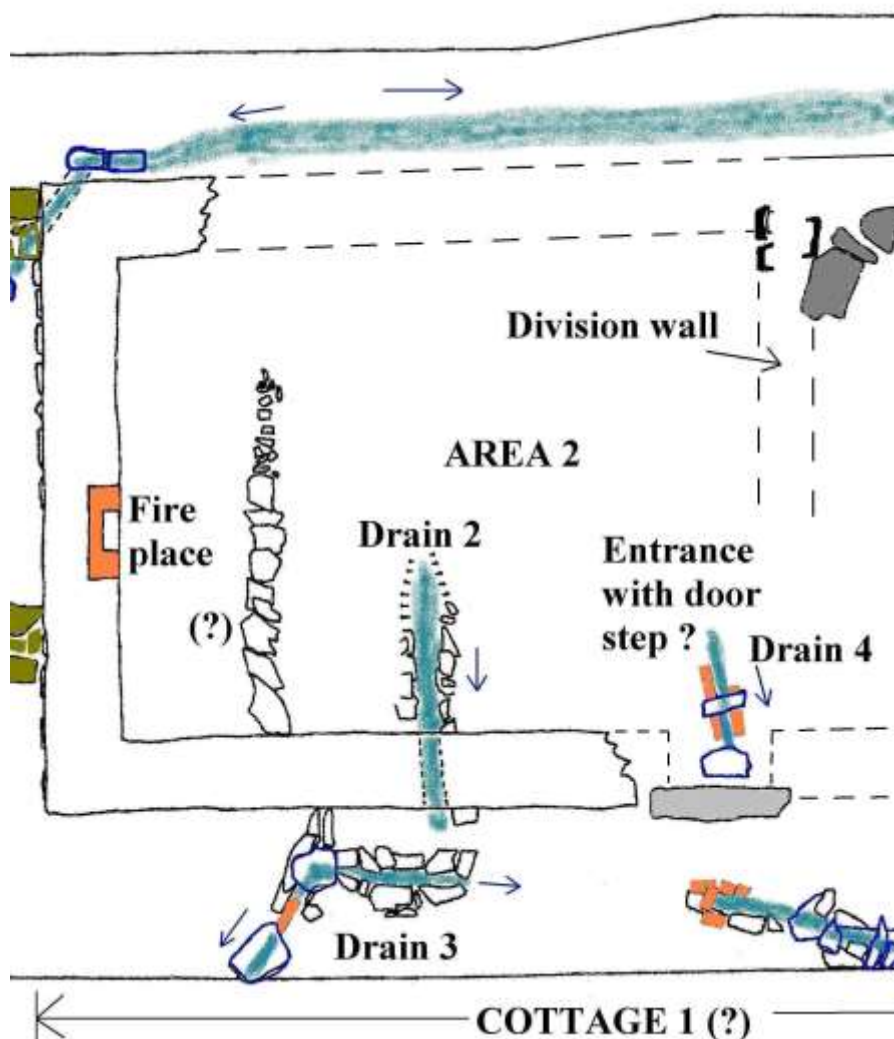


Fig 6. Showing excavated features of Area 2. Note the doorstep is not as found.

On the floor of the room were two features interpreted as drains, however each carried problems with this explanation as follows; A linear setting of stones ran parallel with the gable and was set at 1m from it, the flat stones gave the appearance of a covered drain, but only a very shallow channel of c50mm depth was traceable under *some* of the stones, making it an unlikely drain, also there was no exit for it through the long wall which it abutted, although on the outside it appeared as though a narrow channel should have served it. The second feature (Drain No 2) was clearly meant to be a drain as it did have an exit tunnel through the long wall, however this short feature never appears to have functioned as a drain since it was entirely covered and choked with till, it had no cover stones within the building, but a single projecting stone from the base of the wall on the outside appeared to have been part of an original design feature, nevertheless no other provision was made for the egress of water on the outside, one might have expected it to join with Drain No 3 (below).

Along the rear of the chamber the ground surface which was entirely excavated to the natural till, had angular bedrock protruding above the till as jagged rock. The back wall was obviously truncated by the original forestry operations and much disturbed, however it was plain to see the poor constructional methods adopted by the builders, such as building the wall over sloping bedrock, and even worse – sloping till! Such poor methods were also observed in the second chamber of the main building (below).

The frontage wall survived slightly better and terminated some 5m from the corner, here the indication of an entrance was given by some bricks set into the till and which was a type of covered drain (Drain No 4) as seen elsewhere in the main building. Nearby and to the front of this feature was a disturbed elongate rock, which by smoothing on the central area of one side clearly showed its usage as a step, it is assumed to have been the doorstep and probably lay originally over the drain as found. No indication of the floor surface of Area 2 survived, it is assumed to have been a shallow paved one indicated by the wall plaster line on the internal gable surface.

Area 2 behind the wall.

Outwith the building at the rear side an interesting use was made of the angular bedrock which cleaved to form a ‘V’ shaped channel adjacent the wall and which was covered by flat stones and used as a drain, it discharged through the corner of the main building to run through Area 1 as described above. Some excavation of the bedrock must have been done during construction to allow space for the rear wall, and levelling of part of the floor surface must also have cut into the same rock.

To keep the entire main building dry from ingress of water from the hillside, a shallow open gully (Drain No 7) was cut into the till and ran downhill all the way from the exposed bedrock at the SW rear corner of the building complex, to the NE end of the main building where the drain continued past it but ran under cover slabs, themselves lying below a floor surface described below, the covered drain continued and is described as part of Area 4.

It became evident that the open drain gully running along the back of the main building (Fig 4) had been kept cleared during occupation as all of the finds of crockery and glass lay on the natural till, being the base of the drain, and were subsequently covered by only demolition and rubble which made up the ground there.

Nevertheless, the till was only slightly cut below the basal stones of the wall; which were built on a ridge of till, if a flash flood had occurred it seems unlikely that the gully would have sufficed to prevent water seeping through the wall and into the houses, especially if the covered part of the drain at Area 4 (below) ever became blocked for any reason.

Area 2 in front of the wall.

Outside and to the front of the building a complex of drains was made at Drain No 3 (Pl 14), the arrangement was peculiar since nothing seemed to match up, a narrow channel comprising of two stones seemed to be for a channel through the wall, however no such channel existed, the stones led directly to a drain branch, one of which led off at an angle towards the frontal terrace and included a 3” fireclay pipe, two cover stones survived here. The second branch ran parallel with the main wall for only 1.4m but was uncovered as found, it merely tapered out. Further along the building and immediately outside the putative entrance another finely built drain began (Drain No 5) (Pl 15). It was neatly built three bricks deep at its point of origin and continued as a brick *and* stone channel with stone covers, leading away from the building at a shallow angle, presumably heading for the edge of the terrace. Whether D3 and D5 ever connected is not certain, but given the difference in their levels it seemed unlikely that they did.



Finds from Area 2

Relatively, the finds from Area 2 were sparse compared to other parts of the excavation. A complete whisky bottle came from above the drain at the rear of the building, reconstructed sherds gave the size and shape of a beer bottle and aqua sheared lip ink bottles were found (all Pl 17b). A collection of 19th C crockery sherds was found which was typical of the entire site. A pewter, and a copper spoon (Pl 16), and an unused gun flint, pencil lead, two tiny blue beads and gun pellets (Pl 17) were found on the floor near to the gable wall. The reason for the paucity of finds is probably due to the fact that the area was severely disturbed by both demolition and forestry activities. Clay marbles nevertheless (Pl 17a) were numerous, no fewer than 20 being found scattered over the area but mostly nearer to the fireplace.



Plate 16. Finds from Area 2 floor.



Plate 17. Finds from Area 2 floor.



Plate 17a. Marbles from Area 2 floor. Note the decorated ones (centre).



Plate 17b. Beer and whisky bottles top, sheared lip ink bottles below.

Hardly anything was found at the front of the building with the exception of two clutches of thin window glass, both against the wall of the main building; one at the corner and the other beside Drain No 3. Similar glass was found in quantity elsewhere and may be 18th century in date, since several distinctively different and thicker ‘bulls eye’ panes were also found in other places. If the glass does date to the 18th century it is good evidence that an earlier building to the present remains occupied the site (of which more below).

Area No 3 Fig’s 4 & 7

NS 25018 81654 Area of circa 110 square metres in total.

Area 3 was the remaining internal space of the mortared building and its walls but two chambers were identified; the adjoining one to Area 2 being 4m long and the other was 8m, both were 4.7m wide. Areas behind and in front of the building were also excavated; each part will be dealt with separately.

Firstly it should be explained that Area 3 probably formed parts of two houses, one being Area 2 as described. This is on the basis that each apparent dwelling had floor surfaces of different levels and of different types; the upper floors being stone paving and the lower area being timber. Some finds from Area 3 therefore may have originated from both houses, although they have been recorded by the ‘Areas’ as given in this report.

Principal features were noted in Area 3; one being a gable fireplace and another a floor drain (D6), both built using bricks, also visible was the entrance and some rotten floor beams.

Like the other end of the building the fireplace was also equidistantly set on the gable wall, however here it was a secondary work not integral to the wall but built against it, using a double line of brick on the two sides and a single brick as backing, the total width of the brickwork was 1.7m and the bricks were built over flat hearth stones.

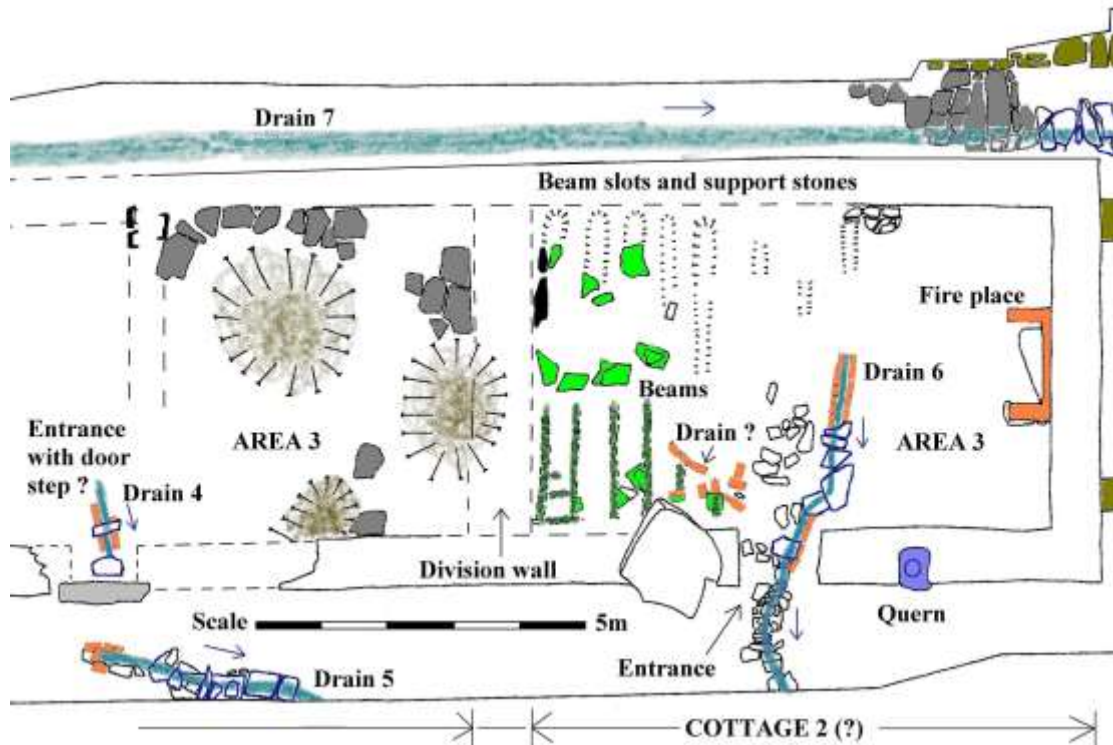


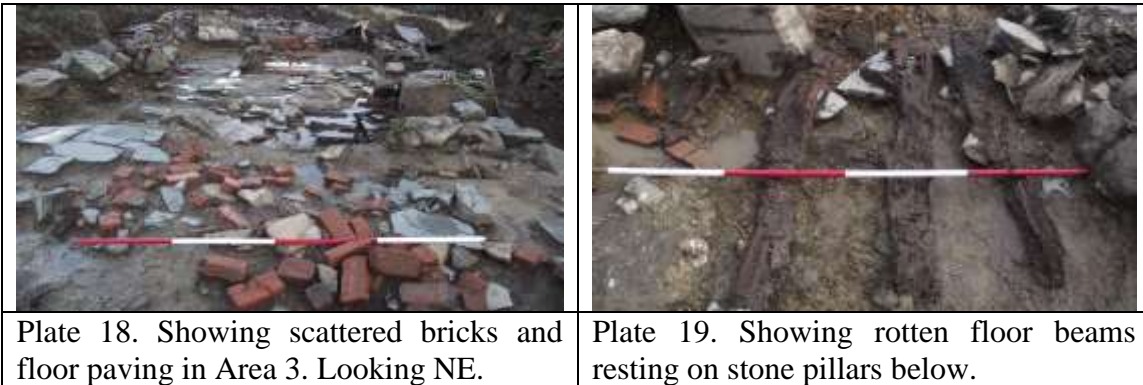
Fig 7. Showing excavated plan of Area 3.

As stated above there were two distinct levels in Area 3 and which became apparent as two distinct areas, most likely being parts of each house. The upper area had originally been paved with flat stones (grey on plan) (Pl 18) similar in nature to Area 1, but of which only a few survived in situ. Lying between these stones and centrally placed was a scatter of seemingly random bricks (Pl 18). Some of the paving slabs appeared to form a line which is taken as the missing wall alignment between the two cottages.

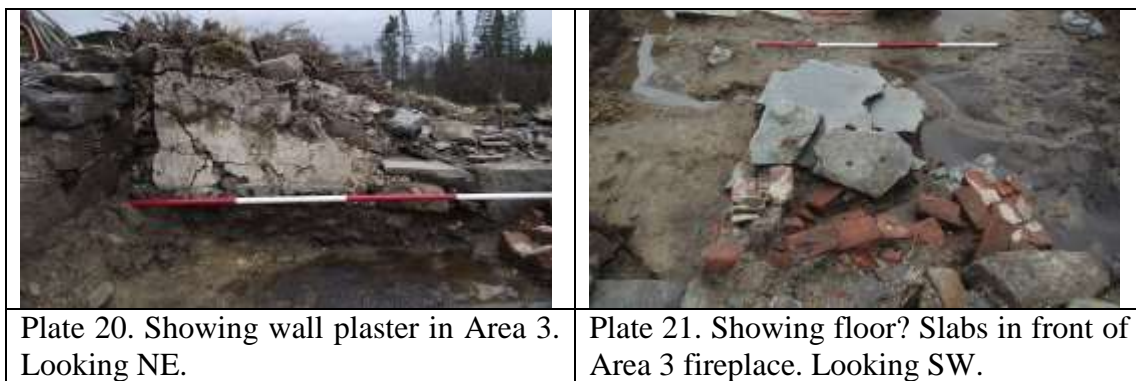
The lower level of Area 3 was probably a single roomed house and is shown to have a timber floor (Pl 19), with wooden beams of circa 150mm wide set at 0.4m intervals and built on flat stones some of which formed low pillars on the SE side of the room (all green on plan). The pillars kept the beams up to 150mm above the natural till, however, on the opposite side of the room the till surface rose in elevation towards the rear wall, and had been cut down only to form channels within which the beams must have been set, to be level. Occasional flat stones aligned with the extant but severely rotten timbers. The remains of six timbers were thus preserved, although some had only just survived, their original cross sections were not determined. Other channels cut into the till on the NW side were also traced indicating the position of at least

another 3 floor beams, however the till in the remaining half of the chamber to the NE was fairly level, and neither cuts into it nor flat stones indicated where the floor beams had been, although it is assumed that the spacing would have been similar across the entire floor.

The difference in extant floor levels (the till) was 0.6m, but given that the original timber floor was positioned about 0.15m above the till, the actual difference in contemporary floor levels was less. The two orthostats indicated the wall line on the NE side while an apparent line in the high level flat paving suggested the wall line there. Certainly a timber floor beam had run alongside the two erect stones.



On each side of the fireplace the walls survived with plaster in situ, most especially on the northern corner where a patch of circa 1 square metre was extant but friable and cracked (Pl 20). The plaster depth varied up to 30mm and along the base, a matrix of timber construction could be seen, also rising vertically in the corner and on the gable wall a presumed timber had been inset in a channel. The base of the plaster on the wall indicated the floor level and it was clear that a timber structure had been built into the corner, the space between the natural till and the bottom line of plaster was 200mm high.



Interestingly no finished plaster surfaces adhered to any of the long walls where they survived on the main building, but some stones did have lime on their faces, it is assumed that all the walls were plastered with lime but that was only evident on the two gables where the fireplaces existed.

In front of the fireplace several large flat slabs of stone (Pl 21) lay adjacent to one another and at an angle, obviously in a disturbed context. One had a smoothed surface

indicating it had been a floor stone while the others were rough on both sides, it is assumed that the smoothed stone may have been in situ in front of the fireplace while the others may have been built as chimney lintels, although this is conjectural.

Inside the building, bricks (Pl 22), set on edge, had been used to form a drainage channel of only >100mm wide by 100mm deep and which ran for a total distance (excavated) of 4.5m towards and through the entrance, the drain (Drain No 6) was partially covered in flat stones of which only a few survived in situ. The channel curved through the entrance and was traced running towards the scarp of the terrace (Pl 23), but under the excavation spoilheap, the drain outwith the building was made entirely with stones.



Plate 22. Showing Drain No 6 in Area 3.



Plate 23. Showing Drain No 6 outside Area 3 entrance.

The entrance to Area 3 was evident by a gap in the wall line and the brick drain which ran through the doorway, a massive erratic boulder (Pl 24) had been used on one side as part of the front wall and with a stump of wall built against it to form the entrance. Here again the poor building techniques were seen as the central part of the wall stump was built on a mound of natural till which had not been removed to form a decent foundation (Pl 24). The doorway was positioned centrally along the frontal wall of Area 3 lower level and it was apparent that post holes were not adopted for the door frame, no indication of how the door was hung survived (Pl 25).



Plate 24. Showing wall stump at door



Plate 25. Showing Area 3 doorway

Finds from Area 3.

Finds were more numerous and diverse in character than in Area 2 but it should be borne in mind that part of Area 3 as given here, may have been one half of the first cottage.

A quantity of iron was found as a pile near the remains of the wooden floor, and much of that had come from a decorative cast iron fire range (Pl's 25a & b) included were

fire bars for chimneys and chains for hanging pots etc. Among this and also scattered around the floors were a variety of other objects (Pl's 25b & c) and which included a single horse shoe, plates from a corn mill grain drying floor, tools including chisels and a scythe blade, various hinges, nails and handles, tongs and a peculiar barbed and hooked item which may have been a boat hook? (Pl 25d). Also of particular interest is a cast iron plate interpreted as a fire back (Pl 25e) (see discussion below).



Plate 25a. Fire range related items.



Plate 25b. Misc' iron items.



Plate 25c. Misc' iron items.



Plate 25d. MB/I/25 detail of hook and barbs.



Plate 25e. Cast iron fire back plate?



Plate 25f. Similar pottery found in different areas, see also Pl 11b.

The pottery and glass were similar to that from most places in the excavation and clearly 19th C in date, and Plate's 25f & 25n emphasises the recurring theme of

identical types across the site, this became important for the dating and interpretation of various areas.

Clay marbles (22of) were also quite common and like Area 2 above most were found nearer to the fire place. Many other small objects also survived in that area and these are illustrated in Plates 25g – 25l. Window glass of both thick (bull’s eye) (Pl 25m) and thin (18thC?) were found in all areas.





Plate 25k. Buttons, hat pins and intaglio.



Plate 25l. Glass picture front? Not a lens.

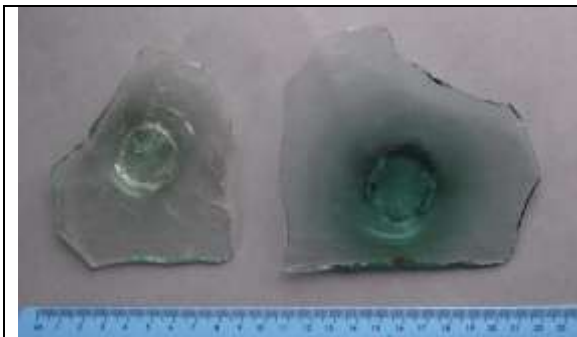


Plate 25m. Showing two of several 'bull's eye' window panes, these two from Area 3.



Plate 25n. Typical crockery from Area 3.

Area 3 behind the wall.

As stated above, the wall had been built on a ridge of till with a slight gully beside it which ran downhill to the NE, this continued as an open drain (Drain No 7) until it ran under a paved area adjacent the corner of the main building and Area 4. If the covered part of the drain had choked, then water must have built up and penetrated the back wall of Area 3 house/s. Along the external side of Area 3 back wall a better foundation course of smaller flat stones had been laid to support the larger wall stones above, the same better quality style of building was also seen outside Area 3 gable (in Area 4).

Area 3 in front of the wall.

As with the entire area excavated in front of the building, the only features on the ground were drainage systems and the one in this place (Drain No 6) is described above.

However, set within and flush with the external wall face, one metre from the entrance was a bowl or pot quern (Pl 26), only partially damaged and which would still have functioned as such if required. Made from a carboniferous sandstone and therefore not of local origin, the bowl measured 0.2 in diameter by the same depth, set within a block of stone 0.6m by 0.4m in size. This object is one of the best strands of evidence that a habitation probably existed at Millbrae prior to the construction of the

mortared building. A second bowl quern but broken in half was found in front of Area 2 along with other constructional stones of dressed ashlar (Pl 27).

Area's 2 & 3 thus formed the main building which measured in total 19.6m long by 6.1m wide, the walls being uniformly 0.7m thick where they were not disturbed (Fig 4 and Pl 49). At various points in the long walls it was evident that stones had been built with varying degrees of consistency and stability, several parts were built on precarious ridges of till and in some instances on sloping surfaces, needless to say that in these spots the building stones were missing or displaced. Along part of the external face of the rear wall (and gable Pl 27a) at Area 3, neat basal levels of built flat stones did give a better foundation for those above, but this was not seen everywhere. The stones on the long wall were located along part of the open drain (No 7) which was most shallow and may have helped to prevent moisture seeping through the wall. Within Area 2 some of the internal rear wall face must have been built on sloping bedrock, all of which makes for rather shabby building technique.



Plate 26 Showing quern stone built into Area 3 wall.



Plate 27 Showing broken quern stone and other constructional sandstone. Area 2.

Parts of the main building walls in Area 2 and Area 3 were built in shallow wall trenches cut into the till (Pl 27a), and importantly for dating, a few bricks had been built into the basal layers of the mortared stone walls (Pl 27b).



Plate 27 a. Showing basal course of gable wall of Area 3. Looking SW.



Plate 27 b. Bricks built into Area 3 east corner.

Area No 4 Fig's 4, 8 & 9

NS 25027 81657 Area of circa 48 square metres.

Area 4 comprised of another drystone constructed building which extended NE from Area 3 gable for at least 8m, however its full extent could not be determined as it had been severely disturbed by both demolition and by forestry activity; e.g. a large tree hole lay in the centre of a paved area. Ground in front and back were also excavated

as with the other areas to determine the wall thicknesses and of any features and finds outwith them.

Front and back wall thickness of 0.55m survived in places and it could be seen that no mortar was used in their construction; they were abutted to the mortared gable of the main building.

The surviving floor was divided into three areas of differing paved surfaces. Along part of the rear wall paving stones existed which were similar to those in Area's 1 & 2, showing smoothed surfaces and edges. The stones were set on a surface which was covered in coal dross indicating a previous floor (more below).

Lying near the gable wall of Area 3, two other sets of stone settings of differing character survived (Fig 8 & Pl 28), the patch at the rear of the room measured 2m square and there was a gap in the paving adjacent the main building wall, this was 0.3m wide and is interpreted as the position of a timber feeding trough. The other distinctly separate but slightly smaller patch of paving was at the frontal area of the room and measured 1.6m square, it was set about 100mm below the others, and it likewise had an unpaved area against the main building but this time it was 0.6m wide from the main wall and is interpreted as the position of a possible feeding cist made with timber. Within the latter space were a short length of rotten wood and, rather remarkably, perfectly preserved patches of tightly woven cloth which had been a green/blue colour were found (Pl's 28 & 43)(discussed below).



Plate 28. Showing Area 4 floors, note Area 3 fireplace and pipe drain No 8. Also patch of cloth. Looking NE.

The paving here was bounded on the NE side by kerb stones which indicated a possible open drain or grip, this theory is further supported by the external piped drain (D8) which led from that position and where its end inside the building had been screened by a grill from a fireplace and on which a clay marble was lodged (PI 30). The drain pipes ran below a tree stump but the continued alignment was shown by a similar pipe on the other side of the stump (PI's 29, 30 & 32).

The two settings of smaller stones were laid in a loose fashion and were therefore not supportive of one another, as is often found on cobbled floor surfaces. If the area was used as a byre as the plan suggests, then the floor would not have lasted even the shortest time with animal hooves on it. The true purpose of this chamber is therefore obscure.

Furthermore, upon removing the two stone surfaces a trampled floor of coal dross and small angular stones was found to have pre dated the cobbling. The same surface was also seen to exist below the NW wall and the better laid flat stones against it, but not below the main gable wall of the mortared building, because the coaly surface stopped abruptly as did the stones above it, along the line of the assumed trough position/s against the main building wall (all on PI 28).

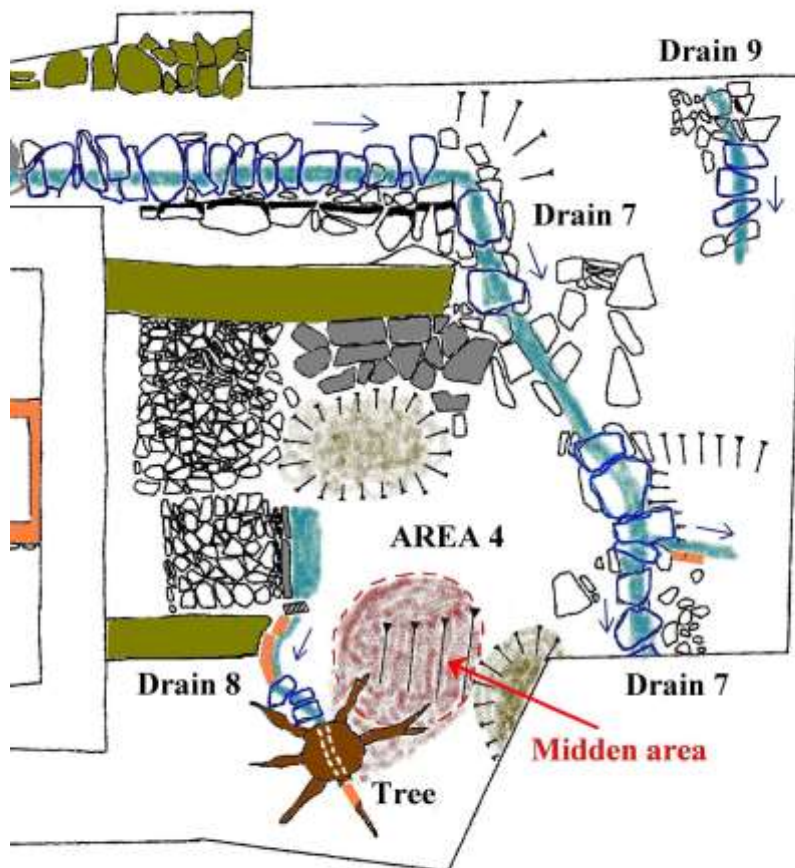



Fig 8. Showing Area 4 excavation plan, see also Fig 9.

	
<p>Plate 29. Showing Drain No 8 under tree stump, after coaly deposit was removed.</p>	<p>Plate 30. Showing marble lodged in drain screen</p>

	
<p>Plate 31. Showing coal dross below Area 4 wall, the ‘miraculous’ appearance of PH 17, and central stone with bricks below coaly soil floor.</p>	<p>Plate 32. Showing coaly deposit in Area 4, with tree holes in c entre and bottom right.</p>

A similar trampled coaly soil deposit (Pl 32), but without any stones within its matrix, and from which no finds were recovered, survived to a depth of >c150mm on the NE side of the stone kerb where Drain No 8 ran from. The deposit lay under both the piped drain and the kerb stone, it extended down slope from the midden area (below) towards and past the tree stump, and it also extended in somewhat truncated form

towards Drain No 7 in the NE. Like the midden which lay immediately above this deposit, both were in line with any extension of the wall leading from the main building, therefore it is suspected that the midden certainly post dated any wall in that position (which must have been removed at that time), whilst the lower deposit may have pre dated any wall there and been in part at least of the same deposit as lay below the floors and walls as described above.

Returning to the area below the loose cobble stones; a flat slab of rock was found abutting two bricks set in line, and at this level a nearby post hole (No 17) suddenly appeared (PI 31). This was a surprise since it had no obvious covering to prevent its collapse, it measured 220mm in diameter by 450mm deep, the sides were neatly packed with supporting stones set flat against the former circular post and the base was flat. The hole as found, a perfect void, was in pristine condition with no infill and only a small piece of timber. However the packing stones inside PH 17 (PI's 33, 34 & 35) included a brick which suggests all of the other cut features are the same age as the brick drain and the flat slab.

Further excavation of the floor revealed a series of 23 pit positions in total and which can be interpreted as post and stake holes depending on size, for the most part they formed a straight line running NW from the main pit, apart from some outliers. No's 1 – 10 were bulk sampled, although the fills appeared to contain only a fine dark soil and in some cases hardly any material was present because of the shallow depth of the surviving pit (see the table below).



Plate 33. Showing brick in PH 17 used as a packing stone.



Plate 34. Showing Post holes 17 & 22 with stone packing. Looking SW.

PH 22 had been a possible squared timber judging by the packing stones set on two sides only, the shallower PH 18 had two stones in its fill which were possibly packing stones, the fills of each were dark soil with coal fragments.

The dimensions of the pits were as follows:

Number	Depth (mm)	Diameter (mm)	Sampled
No 1	80	40	yes
No 2	130	60	yes
No 3	200	60	yes
No 4	50	50	yes
No 5	60	50	yes
No 6	70	50	yes
No 7	90	60	yes
No 8	80	50	yes
No 9	150	80	yes
No 10	90	45	no
No 11	150	200x125	no

Two adjacent stakes

No 12	155	50	no
No 13	190	50	no
No 14	240	90	no
No 15	200	80	no
No 16	80	50	no
No 17	450	220	no
No 18	150	250x100	no
No 19	140	50	no
No 20	160	50	no
No 21	80	40	no
No 22	300	300x200	no
No 23	200	100	no

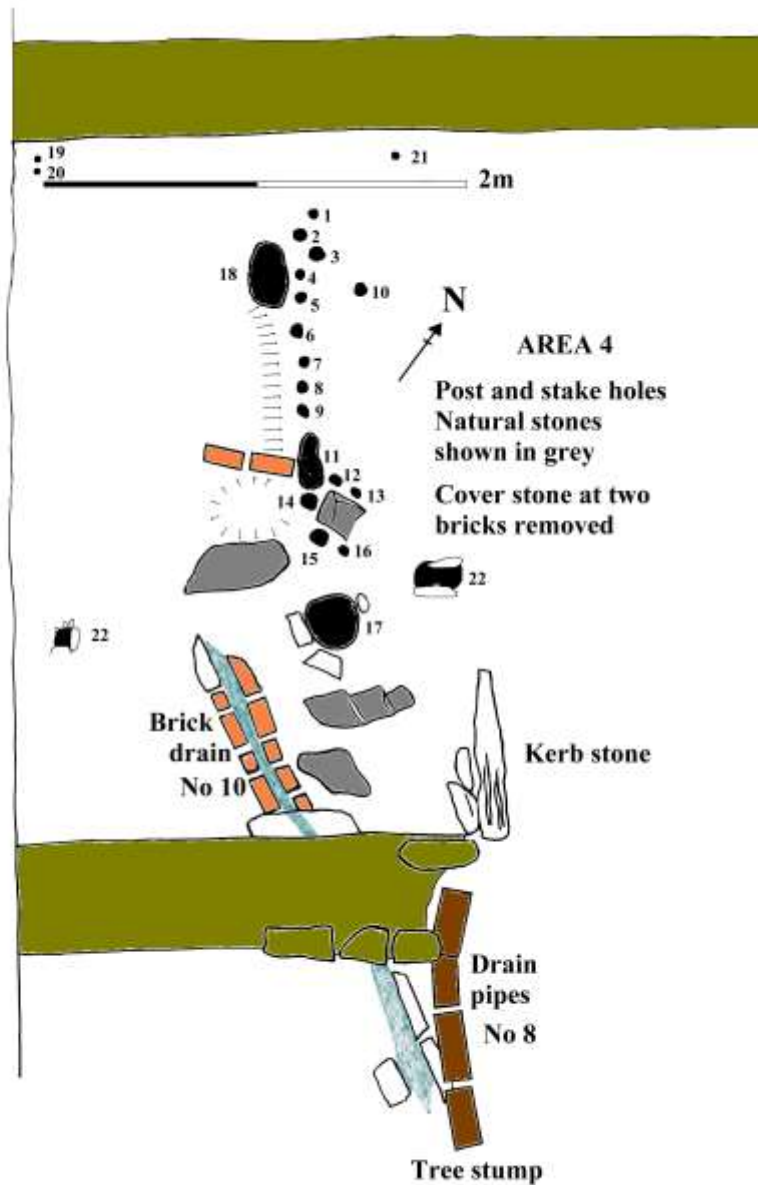


Fig 9. Area 4. Showing various features below the cobbled surfaces.

Given that the PH 17 had been sealed below the floor and with no infilling, but with a brick as a packing stone, it must be interpreted as being contemporary with the other buried floor features of Area 4, i.e. the drain and other bricks, which are certainly 19thC in date, consequently the other cut features are assumed to be of a similar age.

Their true purpose however is not understood, the posts may have been structural in terms of roof supports and the smaller pit alignment is likely to have been a wattle fence.

Similarly the purpose of the stone slab set beside two bricks (Pl 31 & 35) is difficult to interpret, the ground below had been excavated of till to form a shallow depression but because of a protruding natural rock in the till, there was no connection towards the brick lined drain (No 10).



Plate 35. Showing various features below the cobble stones in Area 4, note the Drain No 7 cover stones on left side.

The drain itself had no cover stones as found and was only 0.9m long inside the building, but it did have a discharge tunnel running below the wall and its continued line was traceable outside where it ran between stones and under the piped drain (No 8) there. As with most other drains on the site it is hardly conceivable what good it would have done after a while, given the tiny tunnel created between the bricks, in this case less than 75mm wide and the depth of the brick at (100mm).

Unfortunately the central area between the three patches of paving had been ripped out by the removal of a tree stump, thus destroying the true relationship between the areas of flooring. However, the paving (Fig 8) against the rear wall was much higher quality than the other two patches which were entirely unconsolidated and would have made a poor surface for hooved animals.

The remainder of Area 4 to the NE had been badly disturbed and the only feature which could be confidently traced was Drain No 7, even though it also had been knocked about and several of the side and cover stones were absent. Nevertheless

when the entire drain was cleared out, it still ran perfectly all the way from the northern corner of Area 2 until the water disappeared below the spoil heap at Area 4.

The drain had been diverted (Fig 8 & Pl 36) using bricks to form a new channel; the reason for this is obscure.

Finally, at this end of the excavation a further covered drain (No 9), and built entirely with stones, was located at the northern corner of the site (Fig 8 & Pl 37), the purpose of this drain was not explored.



The finds from Area 4 were all 19th C in character, many being dislocated by forestry activity, however a spirit jar (Pl's 38 & 39) had been smashed in the corner of the room near the main building and it was possible to reconstruct it from the sherds. A considerable quantity of iron was also strewn over the floor surfaces, especially towards the rear of the room where the better paving survived.

The iron was in a similar condition to that found elsewhere but by careful mechanical cleaning several interesting objects appeared from the general masses of concretion: Handles from a cauldron, a girdle and a timber bucket were recovered along with

tools such as a cold chisels, hoe and a bill hook, a kettle spout, two padlocks, hinges and nails, a fire poker and grills; all illustrated in Pl 41.

Of particular significance was the fact that all of the material found below the floor surfaces of Area 4 was 19th century in character (Pl 40), and which seemed to be conclusive proof that the Area 4 was entirely 19th century in date, and which made it, like Area 1 at the other end of the building all of the same period and occupation.

Two barrel taps (Pl 42) are interesting items and indicate bulk use of some liquid, normally such items are associated with spirits of some sort but here it may have been another substance. Perhaps the most remarkable item has been the pieces of cloth (Pl 43) and almost perfectly preserved, these are fully described in the catalogue below and are interpreted as possibly being from a ladies bonnet as a reconstruction shows (Pl 44).



Plate 38. Showing sherds MB/Ce/10, in Area 4.



Plate 39. MB/Ce/10 reconstructed spirit jar.



Plate 40. Selection of finds below Area 4 floor.



Plate 41. Iron objects from Area 4 floor.



Plate 42. Showing two barrel taps from Area 4.



Plate 43. Showing cloth patches, possibly from a child's bonnet. MB/CI/2.



Plate 44. Reconstruction replica of cloth MB/CI/2 suggesting a child's bonnet.



Plate 45. Pipe bowl with sailing ship and anchor from Area 4 midden.

Area 4 outside of the SE wall. Fig 8.

Lying in a very discrete heap of up to about 0.5m deep and circa 1.5m in diameter and among coal dross was a small midden deposit (Pl 46), the content of which became evident at the upper surface of the extant ground. The collection contained a variety of broken 19thC crockery and bottle glass. Other finds included two decorated clay pipe bowls; one with a sailing ship and anchor (Pl 45), marbles, a halfpenny of Victoria, a padlock and two tiny ceramic legs from a doll. Some base sherds of aqua medicine bottles are likely to be 18th C in date. A tree had been planted at the edge of the deposit and a quantity of crockery etc was found below the stump which also covered both drains leading away from Area 4.

The position of the midden intriguingly lay over the assumed wall alignment of Area 4; it therefore post dated the demise of that building.



Plate 46. Showing midden deposit at Area 4. Looking NW. Note piped drain No 8. The crockery etc has been washed and replaced in the general area of the midden for demonstration of content and size.

The drain leading directly from the kerb in Area 4, consisted of clay pipes of 100mm diameter, and of the type normally used in field drains; interestingly, a grill from a fireplace was used within the byre to screen the drain pipe, a clay marble was stuck in the grills. The drain (D8) was for the discharge of effluents from the byre open drain or grip and of which only a kerb remained on one side, as the centre of Area 4 had been demolished by a tree position.

Lying below the midden deposit was a layer of soil up to 150mm deep and which contained an abundance of small fragments of coal and dross, only a few finds including, another clay pipe were found in its upper surface and these are probably derived from the midden deposit above. The soil layer itself covered a trampled surface, also covered in coal dross and it appears that one or both of these surfaces extended into the general space of Area 4 and underlay the paving surfaces there. The lower surface also extended towards and past the drain which ran down through Area 4 from the rear wall, occasional pieces of crockery etc came from this surface.

Area 4 at rear of NW the wall. Fig 8.

Running below the level paved area at the northern corner of Area 3 (Pl 48) (see above) was a covered drain, being the continuation of Drain No 7, it ran along the back wall of Area 4 (Pl 47) as a finely constructed feature set within a kerbed alignment of boulders, the latter also ran parallel with Area 4 wall and in line with the wall of the main building, leaving a space of 0.3m between Area 4 wall and the kerb stones. The drain ran to a position where it turned at a right angle and then continued at a 45° angle downhill where four cover stones were extant. Upon lifting the covers it became apparent how variable this drain had been constructed with vertical side stones forming a channel of between 100 and 200mm wide and 150mm deep.

The entire length of the drain survived intact along the Area 4 wall where it was clearly the best constructed drain on the site (Pl 47). It was completely silted with grit

intermixed with coal dross (Pl 48), but it was badly disturbed where it ran at an angle downhill. At a point lower in its descent the drain changed alignment, and blocked off the original part, which ran straight downhill and was formed by side stones, water which entered it still ran off, indicating the drain still functioned; however, the site spoilheap covered its continuation. The offshoot at an angle was made with bricks and it was clear that the straight part of the drain was deliberately blocked at the confluence and to divert water along a new track which seems to have been disturbed.

This drain was created to manage water along the entire length of the rear of the main building and Area 4, for the most part it was a mere open but shallow gully until it entered the covered part at the northern corner of the main building, like all the other drains it was entirely silted where capstones survived but unlike other drains this one was very well made as far as size was concerned, nevertheless, the sharp bend at Area 4 meant that it would have been prone to blocking and if this happened, the main building would have been under serious threat of water ingress.

In the eastern corner of the excavation a level trampled area continued into the mass of forest brash and was not explored further.

A small quantity of 19thC crockery sherds were found in the fill of the drain channel which was gravelly silt and some coal dross, the pottery was of similar age and style to that of the general finds of the site and was nearly all found in the silt near the uppermost level of the drain, like the finds in open gully along the main building (above) this shows that the drain when functioning, was being kept clear until the last.

Immediately above the drain and paved surface on the NW side of Area 4 a crude wall had been built (Fig 8), presumably to retain any soil from dropping onto the drain cover stones and the paved area, the latter of which was covered in coal dross. Above this walling was a narrow level trampled area indicating its occupation surface. Whether the wall continued along the back wall of the main building was not explored, the spoil heap occupied that entire area.

In the extreme northern corner of the excavation a short length of covered drain (D9)(Fig 8 & Pl 37) existed and which had four cover stones in situ, the steep and narrow drain channel of c 100mm in depth and width was extant for 1m, possibly having been much longer, especially on the lower, much disturbed side. The excavation was not extended uphill to determine the purpose of this drain.



Plate 47. Area 4 showing neatly constructed Drain No 7 and tight bend, with cover stones set aside, looking SW. Note the iron items on the wall.



Plate 48. Detail of Drain No 7 showing silt between edge stones, and floor surface (lhs) at corner of Area 3. Looking NW.



Plate 49. Composite pic of the main building looking SE. The pic is slightly askew in the centre as the building is a straight alignment.



Plate 49a. Looking SW over the excavated building. Compare with Pl 1.

Thus nearly the entire plan and many details of the whole building range were recovered (Figs 4 – 9 & Pl's 49 & 49a), an impressive achievement given the original appearance of the site as seen in Plate No 1.

Other trenches Fig 10.

Various trenches were opened along the sloping frontal area of the terrace upon which the main building range sat. The objective was to determine if any further midden deposits lay in that area and also if any earlier material to that generally found over the site existed, in particular if any finds predating the historical record of occupation of the site (1752) could be recovered. The disturbed surfaces of the general area were littered in sherds of crockery and glass including an early bottle base and an 18th C onion bottle top, the hypothesis that much more lay in that part of the site was not difficult to make.

The trenches sizes and shapes were dictated to some extent by existing tree stumps on the slope. Littered all over the flat ground below the trenches were numerous in situ tree stumps and stumps which had been moved in forestry operations. A new forest drain on the lower ground was cut running roughly parallel with area of the trenches but only a few 19th C pieces of crockery were exposed in it, indicating that it was beyond the range of material presumably thrown from the front of the site above.

The trenches did prove to be interesting in defining certainly two different periods of dumping and possibly three, Fig 10 shows the main limits to 19thC material (blue) which certainly spread further to the NE side of the site, with the bulk of the concentrations being in T1, T2 and T5. The red area defines a concentration of 18th C pottery and bottle glass which was primarily buried below a sub soil although Victorian material had also penetrated down into this stratum. Similarly the green area depicts a concentration of coarse ware pottery and early wine bottle fragments, some of which may date to the 17thC on the basis of a single bottle neck but also on numerous vessels being represented by green glaze pottery, including parts of a chamber pot (Pl's 62 & 63).

The concentrations of earlier material were quite distinct, although occasional pieces were found further afield within Trench No 1.

The trenches also showed where the garden areas in front of the main building had been cultivated, these being mostly on the upper less steep slope, although garden soil blackened by much coal dross did trail over the steeper break of slope as one would expect to happen. The garden soil was clearly demarcated in the trench sections and was devoid of finds apart from a few small sherds of 19thC crockery etc. The soil below the cultivated zone contained material of all periods and types, but for the most part in the sub soil below that, and lying directly on the natural till, was found the majority of early 17thC? And 18thC pottery and glass.

Trench 1 Fig 10

Centred NS 25033 81641 circa 48 square metres

Excavation began at the base of the slope between tree stumps, it was soon realised that a numerically high quantity of crockery and glass existed there, some having been retrieved from the surface of the ground before excavation and which included the neck of an early 18th C onion wine bottle. The sloping ground was then excavated upwards following the range of finds and the trench was expanded until objects were

no longer recovered, thus an irregular shaped trench of c9.5m by 9m and of c48m square was opened, the final area also being dictated by in situ tree stumps.

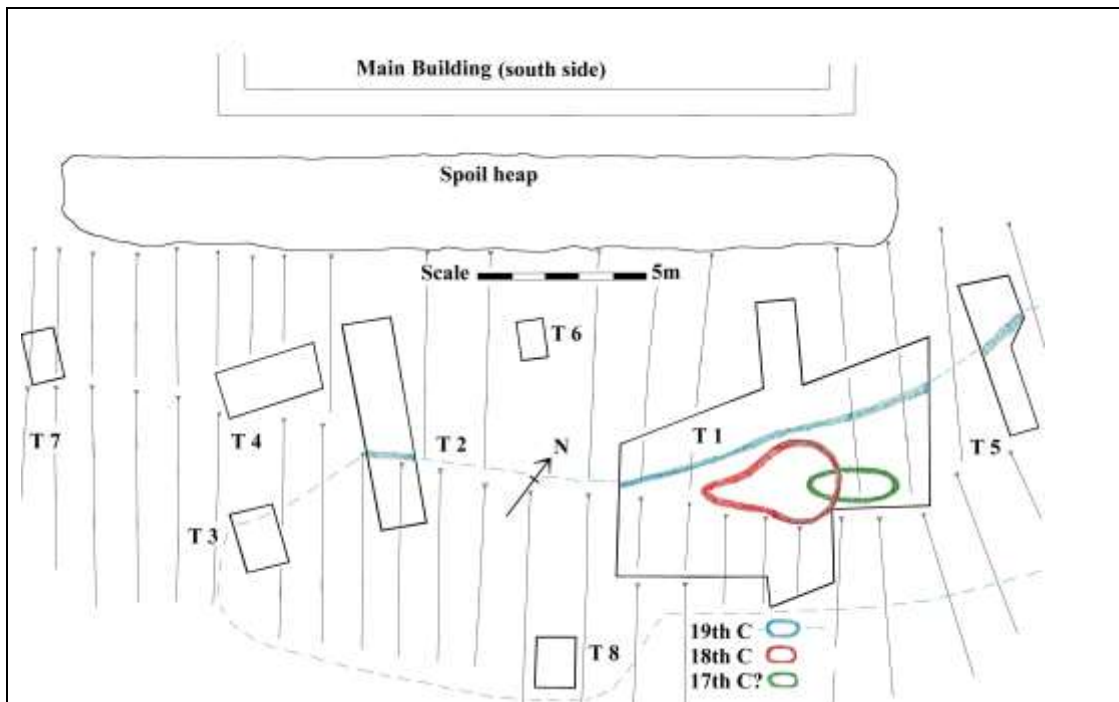


Fig 10. Showing the trenches and the principal scatters of material.

The volume of finds indicated an overall midden deposit and this was mixed 18th/19th century crockery, window and bottle glass. A particular concentration of c 4 x 3m lay above and on the steeper sloping ground, and it was shown that much 18th C material (and possibly 17th C green glaze pottery) was embedded within the upper surface of the till (PI's 50 & 51), at a depth of 0.4m, although some of this also lay nearer or on the surface of the ground intermixed with later material (forestry activity?).

To the NE of this concentration and at the same height on the slope, lay a smaller area which had predominantly coarse and green ware sherds, also buried within the sub soil above the till. This material is considered to be earlier than the larger concentration of glass and slip ware pottery and, taken along with a slightly taller bottle neck lip, may represent the 17th century or at least the latter part of it, this will have to be subject to specialist examination (see further work below).



Plate 50. Showing garden soil above sub soil on bedrock and till, note concentration of finds in the centre as given in PI 51.



Plate 51. Mixed period finds from same level above the till. See PI 50.

It seems likely that ground or hill creep was responsible for burying the earlier finds at the break of slope *and before* the (19thC?) garden soil developed there, thus giving good contextual evidence of 18th C and possibly earlier occupation of the site.

The sloping ground above the steep break of slope had a 0.5m depth of stone free dark soil (Pl 50), intermixed with much coal dross but with hardly any finds apart from a few tiny sherds of 19th C pottery, this is easily interpreted as a cultivated garden soil; gardens appear to be depicted on the OS map. The sub soil beneath the garden zone at the upper edges of the trench and above the 18thC midden area was almost devoid of finds, indicating that most refuse from *all* periods had been discarded on and over the break of slope and below the main cultivated area.

At the base of the steep slope a small patch of dry stone walling survived as a face set into the steeply sloping till (Pl 52), this presumably ran along the base of the slope (see T 6 & 8) , although if it had, it was robbed out in other places. At the upper edge of T1 the terminal of a stone drain (Pl 53) of only 100mm square and covered in two stone slabs was exposed, it is probably the end of Drain No 6. Taken with the drain in found in Trench No 5, the extent to which all of the drains probably ran away from the building is shown.



Plate 52. Showing wall at base of Trench No 1.



Plate 53. Showing drain terminal in Trench No 1

The numbers of finds from Trench No 1 was considerable but have not been quantified numerically here, as they will hopefully be subject to re-cataloguing by specialists in due course. Neither were they spot recorded apart from the loosely measured concentrations of obviously earlier material. At one discrete location a large quantity (bucket full) of severely burnt and molten early 18th C bottle glass was recovered, this included bases and necks of onion bottles, easily identified by their shape, even if contorted by fire. No scorched soil or stones or charcoal lay beside these sherds indicating they had been subject to severe heat elsewhere, but they seem to have been dumped around the same time judging by the proximity of the material. Similarly sherds of a particular bowl were also found close together allowing for near complete re-construction (Pl's 55 -57).

The following images will give an impression of the earlier finds and of the almost 'site standard' early 19th century material.



Plate 54. Mixed assemblage of 18th/19th C finds, about eight full buckets were filled from Trench No 1



Plate 55. Sherds of bowl MB/Ce/118 as found, note the 18thC medicine bottle top among them.

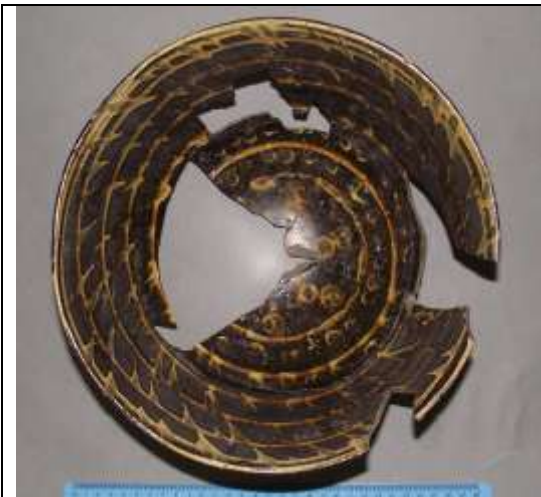


Plate 56. Staffordshire type slip wear bowl MB/Ce/118



Plate 57. MB/Ce/118



Plate 58. Early 18th C Red earthenware Staffordshire type pottery



Plate 59. Early 18th C Red earthenware Staffordshire type pottery



Plate 60. MB/Ce/119 bowl



Plate 61. Selection of coarse and green glaze pottery, 17th C?



Plate 62. MB/Ce/157 chamber pot



Plate 63. MB/Ce/157 chamber pot digital reconstruction



Plate 64. Selection of early 18th C medicine bottle glass



Plate 65. Selection of early 18th C bottle necks



Trench 2 Fig 10

Centred NS 25021 81637. Area of 6.25m by 1.5m = Circa 9.3 square metres.
 Trench No 2 was opened above the main break of slope and was level with T1 above and lay within the former garden area. The black coal rich garden soil lay over a sub soil which also encased a layer of stones, obviously the same as was found in T4 (below), the stones lay over the sharp break of slope near the lower part of the trench. As with T4 nothing was found below the loose packed stones, but a considerable quantity of crockery and glass lay above these stones and in the sub soil.

Trench 3 Fig 10

Centred NS 25020 81635. Area of 1.25m by 2m = Circa 2.5 square metres
 Trench No 3 was cut at the base of the steep slope, at the NW end of the trench which was 1m deep there was a revetment of angular stone set in against the natural hill slope (see T1 & 8), the stones were intermixed with sub soil only but having a slight cover of the dark garden soil seen elsewhere among the trenches.

Trench 4 Fig 10

Centred NS 25018 81639. Area of 3m by 1.5m = Circa 4.5 square metres
 Trench No 4 lay on the gradual upper slope and at the same level as T2. It was 0,6m deep at the upper side where 0.4m depth of the garden soil lay over 0.2m deep sub soil with till below. An alignment of randomly laid angular stones, no larger than 0.3m, lay across the trench and these must originally have been laid into a trench cut in the sub soil and directly onto the till below. While washing down the stones for photography, the water was seen to run immediately down through the interstices on the lower side of the trench, it is possible that this feature was a drainage facility, however no finds were made below the stones which were removed (about 50%) and only the black garden soil lay above the stones.

Trench 5 Fig 10

Centred NS 25035 81652. Area of 5m by 1.5m = Circa 6 square metres
 Trench No 5 was opened to test if the early course ware pottery continued along the slope from T1. 0.3m of the black garden soil lay over a thin sub soil. At the upper end of the trench a drain terminal was located; fireclay field drainage pipes, actually 'U' shaped examples of 100mm wide and high were set into the sub soil to drop into a lower stone lined channel with two cover stones. This may be the terminal of Drain

No 6 in Area 3. No early material was found but the trench and continuing into its sides contained a quantity of 19th C crockery etc.



Trench 6 Fig 10

Centred NS 25023 81652. Area of 1.25m by 0.75m = circa 0.9 square metres.
Trench No 6 lay on the upper slope, a depth of 0.5m of black coaly garden soil lay over 0.1m of sub soil on till.

Trench 7 Fig 10

Centred NS 25012 81634. Area of 1m by 1.5m = Circa 1.5 square metres
Trench No 7 lay on the upper steep slope; it had 0.2m of light brown top soil over a 0.4m depth of sub soil, below lay bedrock. No garden soil was noted here and there were no finds whatsoever in the trench.

Trench 8 Fig 10

Centred NS 25029 31639 Area of 1.5m by 1m = Circa 1.5 square metres
Trench No 8 was opened at the base of the steep slope and below two large rocks set into the slope. The ground consisted of garden soil over a layer of rocks and it could be seen that these stones were laid against the natural slope to revet it, similar to T1 and T3. Finds only included a few pieces of 19th C crockery which were not separately recorded.

The trenches showed that material was being discarded over the break of slope in front of the main building, the concentration being on the NE side in front of Area's 3 & 4, and tailing to nothing towards the SW side where the original road way up to the site is given on the OS Map.

Random finds illustrated here for continuity.



History by Alistair McIntyre

Introduction

This account begins with a qualification: it should be regarded as a work in progress. A number of readily available sources of information have been consulted in this compilation, but to date some potentially important material remains to be consulted. In particular, it should be noted that Argyll Estate records have not yet been accessed. Here, it should be noted that the land on which Millbrae is located formed part of Rosneath Estate, which was owned by the Campbells of Argyll from 1489 until disposal in 1939. That examination of estate records would be well worthwhile is suggested by a tantalising reference made by local historian W. C. Maughan. Writing in 1897, he mentions an estate plan of 1731, which in his day hung on the walls of Rosneath Castle, and which depicted many features of interest. It is hoped at some stage to access estate and other records when time and opportunity permit.

Bearing this in mind, the first record to be found specifically for Millbrae dates from 1752, while the last is 1861. The earlier date derives from an entry in the Old Parish Registers (OPR'S) for Rosneath, which cover the period 1722-1854. Here, it should be noted that these particular documents only record life events such as marriages and births/baptisms. The 1752 date is of a birth /baptism. It is thus important to appreciate that people could have been living on-site prior to that date, but simply did not feature in the requisite events. There are few records in the public domain prior to the period of the OPR's that list individual householders on a systematic basis. One of the few that does is the Hearth Tax of 1694. Unfortunately, this does not appear to have been the case with Rosneath Parish, where there is just an engrossed total of hearths.

The possibility that the settlement at Millbrae may not have started out with that particular name is something else to be kept in mind. The mill that existed nearby until demolition in 1913 was a corn mill, and according to Maughan, it bore the date 1752 on the door above the lintel, which of course happens to coincide with the first mention of Millbrae in the records. The mill was located beside the public road, and was a dominant feature on the local landscape. Could a pre-existing settlement have come by a convenient new name simply by association?

This chain of thought is however cast into some doubt by the fact that there was an earlier mill. As to exactly where it was located is fortunately once again revealed through Maughan, who informs us (1893) that “Last century there was a mill which stood in the Castle grounds, a little way from the low bridge admitting to the policies, hence the origin of the name of the Bay (i.e. Mill Bay, as an alternative to the older name of Camsail Bay). No trace of the mill now exists”.

If this earlier mill, the site of which was close to the access road to the Caravan Park, was able to influence the name of the bay, might it likewise have been reflected in the name of a small, out-of-sight habitation, a good half mile distant? That is a moot point, but it is suggested here that if the settlement did indeed exist before 1752, there is at least the possibility it could have gone under a different name. Scrutiny of old records offers no obvious candidate, but in its absence, the generic term “Camsail” would probably be the most likely choice. This name, however, could be applied to several settlements, frustrating any further speculation.

As to when Millbrae was abandoned, there is again a certain measure of uncertainty, although much less so than in the case of foundation. It is in the nature of things that unless something dramatic happens, such as a house-fire, the abandonment of a site usually takes place quietly and without fanfare. When the officers of the Ordnance Survey came here in 1860, they recorded a roofed building on the site, and it was described in their Name Book as “*a small cottage mid-way between Kilcreggan and Rosneath*”. The Census of 1861 reveals that there were two households at the site, one with a lone occupant, and the other comprising no less than ten people!

Thenceforth, there is silence. Helensburgh directories (which include Rosneath) date from 1865, and make no mention of Millbrae. Rosneath Estate was placed on the market in 1870, when all properties were listed; including even those which went rent free, but once more, the name of Millbrae is not to be found. The Census of 1871 similarly has nothing to say. A mid-Victorian abandonment date fits in well with a description given by the ever helpful and generally reliable Maughan. He writes (1893):-

“On the hillside...may be discerned the remains of one or two cottages, a scene recalling some of the features in the “Deserted Village”. This once was a hamlet called Millbrae, and here long lived Donald Campbell, the Duke of Argyll's gamekeeper, whose son still survives at Kilcreggan. Forty years ago, this presented a sweet and beautiful aspect of rural repose and quiet seclusion. There was a path, leading over the gorse-clad rocky brae, where the sheep wandered at will. A pretty garden, with fruit trees and rustic flowers, was carefully tended by the cottagers, and still some of the trees remain, with broken branches and severed stems. Truly a peaceful spot...”

As Maughan relates, the house was the abode of a gamekeeper, but one question that arises is: was it always a gamekeeper's residence? The Old Parish Registers (OPR's) do not offer any clues: all that can be said at this point is that when the Census returns for 1841 were compiled, there was one household, with Donald Campbell, gamekeeper, listed as head of household. A son, James, is also described as a gamekeeper.

The ensuing story of the family can be traced from succeeding census reports as detailed in the Timeline given below, but a few comments may be in order. By 1851, James is a married man, with a family of his own, making up a second household at Millbrae. When the census after that takes place, however, something unexpected is revealed. Donald has evidently passed away, and his widow now constitutes one household. The other household is headed by James, who is now earning a living as a carter, which might come as a surprise. The job of gamekeeper could be seen as carrying a certain status, and one might have thought that following in the footsteps of his father, it would be a case of once a gamekeeper, always a gamekeeper. At that time too, a career change of this magnitude might be thought of as unusual. The job of carter would hardly have been any less physically demanding. By the time of the 1881 Census, James and his family are now living at Hillhead Terrace, Kilcreggan, and he has changed career once again, being employed as a gardener, which once more may be contrary to expectation.

As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words, and while no painting or photograph of the settlement has been located to date, the best substitute is a good map or plan. The estate plan of 1731 mentioned earlier could be illuminating, if traced, but in its absence, the earliest map to come to hand so far which depicts Millbrae is an estate map drawn up for the Duke of Argyll in 1802. The map (in private hands), although on quite a big scale (c.4 inches/mile, is however in fairly poor condition, and it is difficult to assess just how closely the extent of the building shown matches that of the 1860 O.S. map. The Ordnance Survey did an excellent job of precise representation; their survey work being carried out in 1860, and publication following five years later. The large-scale O.S. Maps supply invaluable detail of the settlement as it was shortly before it fell into disuse.

There is undoubtedly an enigmatic aspect to the whole Millbrae story. As well as the question of the livelihood of the original occupants already mentioned, there is also the matter of why the place came to be abandoned. After all, the location would appear to have been an attractive one, being south-facing, with extensive views, ample, good-quality garden ground, and not too far from the nearest road. Five minutes' walk would have taken one to the nearest neighbours at the mill, where there were several cottages, so solitude ought not to have been an issue.

Will answers ever be forthcoming? One thing is now for sure, the archaeology of the site has shown that people lived at Millbrae long before the available historical evidence shows.

Timeline

1752 Dugald McDugald and Mary Coalman (or McCoal) in Miln Brae have a son baptised

(Dugald, of Lochgoilhead Parish, and Mary, of Rosneath Parish, were married at Rosneath in 1747)

(OPR)

1760 The last date of a baptism of a child to Dugald and Mary while still living at Miln Brae. They do have another child baptised in 1762, but by now they are living at Cross Road of Camsail. They do not feature subsequently in Rosneath OPR's *(OPR)*

1765 John Campbell and Katherine McIntyre in Miln Brae have a daughter baptised. (Both of Rosneath, they were married there in 1758). Further children are baptised while resident at Miln Brae, the last entry being in 1774 (OPR)

1778 Males over the age of 12 years living at Miln Brae comprise John Campbell, Archibald Campbell and James Campbell (N.B. Only people in these categories are listed) (*List of Inhabitants of Argyll Estate, 1778*)

1787 John Rodger in Portkill and Agnes Campbell have a natural daughter baptised, the sponsor being John Campbell in Miln Brae (OPR)

1820 Donald Campbell and spouse Mary Gillies in Miln Brae have a son baptised. While still resident there, they have another child baptised in 1825 (N.B. There may be further relevant entries in the OPR's, but the entries, made in the hand of Rev. Robert Story, are almost impossible to decipher.) (OPR)

1841 Listed as resident at Millbrae are:-

Donald Campbell (50) Gamekeeper. b. Rosneath P.

Mary Campbell (50) spouse. b. Rosneath P.

James Campbell (20) son. Gamekeeper. b. Rosneath P.

John Campbell (18) son Agricultural labourer. b. Rosneath P.

Donald Campbell (15) son Agricultural labourer b. Rosneath P.

Margaret Angus (15) Female servant b. Rosneath P.

(*Census of 1841*) (N.B. In this particular census, ages are generally rounded off to the nearest 5 years)

1851 Listed as resident at Millbrae are:-

Donald Campbell (66) Head. Gamekeeper.

Elizabeth McFarlane (16) House servant

Separate household at Mill Brae:-

James Campbell (32) Head. Gamekeeper

Janet Campbell (29) Spouse

Donald Campbell (3) Son

Mary Campbell (1 1/2) Daughter

(*Census of 1851*)

1860 First edition of the Ordnance Survey map, surveyed in 1860 and published in 1865, shows two separate roofed buildings at Millbrae. Today, there appears to be no trace on the ground of the second, smaller, roofed building on the 1860 map. This was located close to the mill pond. Possibly it was merely an outbuilding.

The O.S. Name Book for Rosneath (1860) describes Millbrae in the following terms:-
MILL BRAE- "A small cottage about a mile north east from Kilcreggan."

(Authorities consulted- Lorn Campbell, Esq., Mr King, Mr McLearan)

(*Ordnance Survey*)

1861 Listed as resident at Millbrae:-
Mary Campbell (72) Head. Widow
Separate household at Mill Brae:-
James Campbell (42) Head. Carter
Janet Campbell (39) Spouse.
Donald (13), Mary (11), John (9), James (6) (all listed as scholars), Janet (3),
Christina (6 months)
Archibald Walker (29) Lodger Agricultural labourer
Anthony Harkins (22) Lodger Agricultural labourer.

(Census of 1861)

1865 Helensburgh Directories (which include Rosneath) are available for 1865 onwards. There is no mention of Millbrae in any of them.
(Helensburgh Directories)

1870 Rosneath Estate is placed on the market. All tenants and their residences are listed, even those held rent-free by the occupants. There is no mention of Millbrae.
(Prospectus of Rosneath Estate, 1870)

1871 So far as can be ascertained, there is no-one listed as resident at Millbrae in the Census of 1871 (some entries are almost illegible)

(Census of 1871)

1881 James Campbell, formerly resident at Millbrae, is now listed as resident with his wife and two adult unmarried daughters at Hillhead Terrace, Kilcreggan. His occupation is given as “gardener”.

(Census of 1881)

Historical Bibliography

PRIMARY SOURCES

Abstract of Argyll Sasines 1617-1780. Ed. H.Campbell (1933)
Census, national - dicennial from 1841
Commissariat Records of Glasgow: Index to Register of Testaments. Ed. F. J. Grant (1901)
Fowler's Directories, 1834, 1836 (include Garelochside)
Helensburgh Directories 1865-
Inhabitants of Argyll Estate 1778/1779. Scottish Record Society (1963)
Maps-pre O.S., e.g. Pont (1590's); Ross (1777); Langlands (1801); Ainslie (1821).
Maps- O.S. 1st ed. Surv. 1860, pub. 1865. 1, 6 and 25 inches/mile
New Statistical Account: Rosneath Parish (1839)
Old Parish Registers: Rosneath, 1722-1854
Old Statistical Account: Rosneath Parish (1790)

Ordnance Survey Name Books: Rosneath (1860)

Prospectus for (proposed) Sale of Rosneath Estate (1870)

Rosneath Old Churchyard. Civil Service Retirement Fellowship (1989)

SECONDARY SOURCES

Maughan, W. C. Annals of Garelochside (1897)

Maughan, W. C. Roseneath Past and Present (1893)

Reeve, R. A Victorian Burgh: the Story of Cove and Kilcreggan (2005)

Warr, C. L. The Glimmering Landscape (1960)

Discussion

The site of Millbrae had disappeared from record and memory after the 1860 OS Survey and was only fortuitously re-found by the scatter of crockery and bricks strewn around the area, but during a systematic search for traces of any archaeological evidence in the former woodland, and when a nearby pre-historic flint flake was also found (Pl 71). Map research soon showed the position and nature of the settlement as it existed in the mid 19th century. The historical and archaeological evidence now gathered reveal much of the history of the site and its occupants and this will be summarised.

Despite being extensively damaged, firstly by deliberate demolition soon after abandonment, then by the original forestry planting and felling operations, much of the plan of the principal buildings was recovered.

The main lime mortared building appears to have been constructed sometime either side of 1800, possibly a decade or so into the late 18th century, its appearance can be postulated by what was found and also by what was not found.

Dealing firstly with the latter, no trace of roofing slate or tile was found meaning that the roof/s had been some form of thatch. Furthermore and because of the width of the rooms it is most likely the building roof was not of cruck construction but made with the more modern method of spanning trusses across the wall heads. A chimney probably existed in the SW gable but possibly a 'hingin lum' or fire canopy was present at the NE end where the fireplace was not integral with the gable wall. It is uncertain whether a third fireplace existed in the centre of the building where a pile of bricks were strewn but where a dividing wall had been stripped out, the bricks were also near the location of cast iron fire range fragments.

Judging by the OS Map, the building comprised of a double cottage built along the natural terrace, since only two possible entrances were located and seemingly could have existed, the double house theory seems plausible; the OS Map appears to show two porch-like extensions, but evidence of these was not found. The higher level house to the SW may have been divided into two parts with stone paving as floors, while the lower house had a timber floor and probably existed as a single chamber.

The main cottage was built using lime mortar which survived best on each gable where fireplaces had been built as far as could be seen with hand made and unmarked

bricks. A few bricks by A T Bow of Glasgow were found throughout the site but were unfortunately not found in the surviving fireplace structures, this would have been an advantage in dating the building, especially at the SW end where the fireplace was an integral part of the gable wall. Nearly all of the bricks were unmarked but the pile of bricks scattered in the centre of the building contained a single Bow brick, this pile of bricks cannot be explained since they lay over a removed tree position and they may simply have been disturbed from either end of the main building where the known fireplaces existed.

The Glasgow Directory of 1820 shows that Bow were making bricks, roof tiles and drain pipes, they were also builders. However it is not possible to say if Bow's bricks were used in the original construction or formed some repairs later, the latter is suspected. Unmarked bricks certainly were used at the outset of building as some are built into the base of the surviving walls and the fireplace in Area 2 appears to be entirely original.

Aspects of fine quality masonry were found in a few pieces of dressed ashlar (sandstones) but it is suspected they came from fireplaces.

At least one entrance had a large local stone as a doorstep. Doors were evidenced by several iron hinges of different types, and some handles, however it was not possible to say how any doors were actually hung as only the NE entrance survived complete at ground level but with little other information.

Windows on the other hand were demonstrated by the numerous sherds of glass of both thin and thick types, the former being suspected as 18thC in date while the latter were certainly 'bulls eye' panes of the 19thC, the thinner glass was mounted in lead as traces on the edges show, while the thicker (and later?) glass was mounted in wooden frames.

Neither of the two fire places exhibited any signs of heat, and that will be due to the fact that cast iron parts of fire ranges were found and which would have been inserted into the brick compartments made for them, no evidence of chimneys survived.

The various attempts at draining or maintaining dry floors and surfaces has been discussed above, but it is worth repeating how inadequately for the most part they appear to have been constructed and such consideration also goes to the long wall construction of the houses being built on sloping till and bedrock. The gables on the other hand demonstrate excellent quality of building using good quality lime mortar filling all interstices between stones within the walls, and providing high quality internal wall plastering as was seen in the NE end of Area 3.

It was suspected that the end structures, one of which at the SW end appears on the OS Map, and which were not built with lime mortar, could be earlier than the main building; however it was shown that these places were added to the main building and are contemporary with it. The bricks and drains being the principal evidence of that.

Coal dross was found throughout the site and certainly it was the principal fuel used in the 19th century, however in Trench No 1 and where 18th century pottery and glass were located above the till as discrete deposits, coal was not present as it was

elsewhere, therefore the fuel at that time must have been peat, wood or turf, of which no evidence of any was found. Area 1 and the cobbled area at the NE end of the building were used as coal stores as the dross in each location indicated.

The finds from the main excavation, apart from a few tantalising objects; sherds of crockery and glass, indicated occupation throughout the early 19th century. Notwithstanding that view, the bowl querns, and most especially the one built into the base of the mortared wall certainly indicate habitation existed on the site prior to the construction of the main building, however, if such a building had occupied the same location, any traces of it were entirely removed.

Despite that fact, the midden deposit in front of the house (Trench No 1) clearly indicated that occupation of the site began at least 100 years before the main building was constructed and over 50 years before the available historical records show. The evidence in the form of Staffordshire type wares of pottery, and more convincingly the parts of onion wine bottles and green glazed pottery, show that occupation of the site was extensive enough for a significant volume of material to be dumped after its breakage on site. All of which surely must indicate an earlier habitation? Than the one which survived.

The main body of finds indicate a picture of Victorian lifestyle for a country cottage and even one for gamekeepers and their families; gun flints, musket balls and shot gun cartridge pellets speak of the gamekeeper. Children are represented by dolls body parts and more especially by the numerous clay marbles found, a few of which are decorated with coloured lines and suggest they may be imports from the USA or Germany.

Glass bottles for spirits, wine and beer show that the adult occupants were enjoying such beverages, perhaps even in bulk as the two barrel taps imply, whilst a few aerated water bottles would quench the thirst of youngsters. Medicine was also being acquired, probably for the most part as 'quack cures' while writing ink was certainly used from the 1840's by the 'penny ink' bottles which were found.

Tobacco does not appear to have been highly important to the occupants judging by the few mid 19th C finds of that nature, the two 'ship' pipe bowls will be worthy of research and seem to indicate a marine influence, however the fashion for snuff may have superseded the habit of smoking.

It is however to the ladies of the houses which most finds speak, principally in the form of crockery but also in other small finds.

The range of pottery is huge and diverse in both purpose and design; we have chamber pots, washing sets of jugs and bowls, large mixing bowls, course wares but primarily fancy wares of tea and coffee sets, jugs, bowls, saucers and plates, of which the ubiquitous transfer printed wares including the 'Willow Pattern' are well represented. Brown glazed tea pot lids were found everywhere on the site and show a large turnover of such items. Painted and sponge decoration cover a bewildering range of decorative types of vessel of which only a select few have been illustrated in this report. Ornamental pottery is almost absent in favour of utilitarian but quite fancy pieces. The terminus post quem for this material is not absolutely certain but the cut

off point in the history of the site is known to be soon after 1865. Therefore the finds cover the entire first half of the 19th century and show people who were living in relative comfort and with a fairly high standard of material wealth and aspiration.

Buttons range from the basic wood and shell types to a gilded one and ornate glass examples from ladies costume, and the glass hat pin tops and intaglio (brooch or ring?) tell of fashion accoutrements.

All of the above deals with the later period of occupation of the site and which because of the known history and the archaeology are perhaps easier to understand. Appreciation of the earlier 18th and perhaps 17th centuries is more problematic in the absence of any archaeological building or features, and historical data; however, the finds speak for themselves. The collection of pottery and glass is easily the best, possibly the only one of its type and age to be found so far in this part of the west of Scotland. The quantities of both pottery and glass clearly indicate a permanent occupation of the site (somewhere!).

The consumption of wines and spirits at a relatively high numerical level of bottles as is demonstrated in the collection show this was no peasants lodging. Acquiring such liqueurs were not necessarily expensive even in the early part of the 18th century, however it does seem unusual for such a settlement to be doing so. How and by whom the bottles and their contents were acquired is entirely unknown at this stage, indeed such questions are rarely if ever answered since the economics and lifestyles of rural communities in Scotland prior to Parish Records (if they survive) is almost entirely absent. The same dearth of knowledge applies to the pottery discussed below.

The questions are: Who acquired the bottles and pottery?
 What were the contents of the bottles, assuming that they were purchased full?
 By what means were the goods purchased and from whom and where?

Similarly the procurement and use of pottery vessels as seen in the early part of the collections from Millbrae is strongly suggestive of an occupation above the most menial level to say the least. Numerous beakers, bowls and jugs of red earthen ware Staffordshire types of slip ware pottery are not commonly found on settlement sites in Scotland, or indeed in urban contexts.

Here the questions are:
 Who acquired the pottery?
 Where and from whom were the items purchased?

Conclusion

The historical research to date indicates that occupation of the site began in 1752 and continued with named occupants until soon after the first Ordnance Survey was published in 1865. However the archaeological evidence shows that the site was occupied possible as far back as 1700AD and perhaps before that, this is on the basis of finds of bottle glass and pottery of slip ware and green glaze types, a more accurate date for both is still to be determined by specialist study.

The main building on the site appears to be the double cottage represented on the OS Map of the site, and apart from a few items found within and beside the building but importantly including the two bowl querns; one of which is built into the foundation course of the wall, no structural evidence of occupation predating the cottages was found. On architectural typology for southern Scotland the cottages are highly unlikely to pre-date c1780.

The midden deposit in Trench No 1 most definitely shows that occupation involving considerable material wealth in the form of the wine and medicine bottles and pottery took place around and/or before 1700AD, the identification of these people and their habitation has not been established but it may be assumed that they were not of the lowest social strata of the locality.

Similarly the known historical occupants of the site were materially rich and this is evidenced by the vast quantity of crockery being used and discarded in a relatively short period of the first half of the 19th century. While smoking tobacco does not appear to have been high on the agenda of the people, certainly they were still enjoying beverages in the form of beer, wines and spirits of various types, and a little lemonade. The children had ceramic dolls, and presumably the boys were extremely fond of playing marbles.

Although described in such idealistic terms by Maughan (above) the houses of Millbrae would have been a paradox of living standards. Without doubt some aspects of the houses were poorly made, but with routine and ongoing maintenance they should have been water tight and snug, the coal to keep them warm would have been in abundant supply and relatively cheap. The gardens were kept neat and tidy from first hand account and they would have supplied fresh vegetables and no doubt flowers to adorn the cottages glass windows. Estate gamekeepers would have commanded some respect within the community and from their peers. The picture of kitchen fires with all their accoutrements, tables and side boards covered in fancy crockery set for genteel tea parties with neighbours, and the men enjoying a beer with their tobacco is all too easy to envisage at Millbrae.

Cottages like Millbrae and of its period are fortunately well illustrated in old photographs of most districts in southern Scotland. The following one (Pl 73) is a formerly historic one near Biggar, now typically and disgracefully destroyed, given its association with William Ewart Gladstone, Prime Minister of Britain, since his grandfather lived there. It is assumed that Millbrae would look similar even including the little lean to at the end, and it seems to fit the description given by Maughan of Millbrae.



Plate 73.

Future work

Attempts at reconstructing both glass and crockery from different areas of the excavations have been minimal. Only obvious pieces and material found in close proximity has been re-joined. The catalogue given here also is basic in form where much glass and crockery has been listed as ‘miscellaneous’.

Future work by NCAS may consider a more detailed examination of all finds and elaborate on the descriptions given in this catalogue. Similarly, research into the finds may be a separate programme of work to provide more detail. The 18th century finds in particular are worthy of expert examination, re-cataloguing and reporting, and this has been set in motion. The report as given here is therefore an *interim report*.

However, funds have been secured to analyse and report of the 18th C glass assemblage and similar grants will be pursued to deal with all pottery from the site.

Acknowledgement

NCAS are grateful to Tilhill Forestry Ltd for permission to engage in this project, in particular to Mr Stephen Tong; Forestry Manager who gave helpful advice and assistance on site. Grant Swan kindly removed all tree roots from the site by machine enabling the work to progress.

A grant has been awarded by The Catherine Mackichan Bursary Trust for the purposes of reporting on the 18th C glass assemblage (Murdoch, forthcoming). NCAS are grateful to The Trust for their generous support.

The following members of NCAS work on site: Carole Biggam, Anne Evans, Alasdair Jamieson, Sandra Kelly, Nick Maidment, Alastair McIntyre, Jeremy Watson, Tam Ward directed the work, photographically recorded and drew plans and also processed the finds, assisted in the latter by Alastair McIntyre and Sandra Kelly. Further site assistance was given by Jacquie Dryden, Connie and Laura Chekanski.

Alastair McIntyre is further acknowledged for his extended hard work in removing overburden from the site and for his historical research which is included herewith.

THE FINDS

The finds are catalogued by 'Area', 'Context' or 'Trench' as given on the various plans above, 'Random' finds are those picked up around the site, nearly all lower down, and are not spot recorded. All find numbers should be prefixed by 'MB' for Millbrae. Numbers for each *find type or material* run on continuously through the order of areas given above. Only specific or more complete ceramic and glass items are separately catalogued, the remainder of sherds being listed under a single number as a miscellany of vessels represented by incompatible sherds.

The following material codes are used in the catalogue:

Ce	= ceramic
G	= glass,
I	= iron
Ca	= copper alloy
L	= lead
Le	= leather
B	= bone
Sh	= shell
W	= wood
S	= stone
F	= flint
P	= pewter
Cl	= cloth

After cleaning, reconstruction of some ceramic and glass items has been attempted, however, attempts at rebuilding glass sherds were only tried if they were found in close proximity to one another.

Crockery from various parts of the project was compared for similarity or refits but most has been left bagged within its own area of recovery.

Photographs of a few objects have been digitally enhanced where enough material was reconstructed to allow it.

Building stones of sandstone, bricks and the two quern stones were left on site.

For the most part, iron was badly corroded or damaged, cast iron objects such as cauldron and fireplace fragments and forged objects were mechanically hand cleaned as far as was practical and photographed.

The following finds descriptions should be read as 'non specialist'.

Catalogue of finds

AREA 1

Ceramic

MB/Ce/1 Pl 9.

Dish. Red earthenware with brown glaze and trailed cream slip. 360mm external rim diameter, flat base 145mm diameter and 80mm deep. Flat rim extends out for 20mm and is slightly rolled down at the edge where a broad finger ring runs below it on the external side which is unglazed. The sides slope inwards at c45⁰ angle, and the slip trail has been applied speedily by brushing from left to right along the rim and down the inside of the bowl, terminating at the base.

MB/Ce/2 Pl 8.

Dish. Red earthenware with dark brown glaze on the inside only and on the outer edge of the rim which slopes inwards and is slightly expanded at its edge. 430mm external rim diameter, rim is 30mm wide, flat base diameter 245mm diameter and the dish is 105mm deep. The sides slope inwards at c45⁰ angle. [see also MB/Ce/103].

MB/Ce/3

Chamber pot. White overall glaze, external rim diameter 240mm, flat almost level rim 300mm broad, foot diameter 120mm and raised 10mm. 125mm deep. [Handle not found].

MB/Ce/4 Pl 7

Urn. Red earthenware with dark brown internal glaze only. No handle. External rim diameter 120mm with flat level top 28mm wide, aperture therefore 64mm in diameter. Slightly hollow base 120mm in diameter on extended foot 15mm high. The pot external diameter expands from 125mm above the foot to 190mm at the shoulder. Wall sherds were up to 8mm thick. There is a patch of black concretion inside on the base and also on a small patch on the external shoulder which must have been the contents at some point.

MB/Ce/5 Pl 6

Jug. Ornate blue and white jug with moustached face below pouring rim which has dark blue leaf scroll all round, two boys, one seated and the other kneeling appear together and on each side, the seated boy has a straight bottle and a small bowl beside him while the other boy, who has a conical hat appears to have a set of bellows beside him. The jug overall height may have been c210mm (the foot is missing).

MB/Ce/6

Jug. White dull glaze externally and high glaze inside. Decorated motif of flower and leaves on side and ornate scrolled handle. Slightly bevelled foot is 90mm in diameter with body expanding to c130mm diameter above base of the handle.

MB/Ce/7 & 8 Pl 11.

Water jug and companion bowl. Sherds of two vessels matching in mottled design of 'marbling' effect of grey on white glaze, both inside and out. The bowl external rim diameter is 360mm with a flat everted rim 200mm wide, the slightly raised foot diameter is c120mm and the base appears to have been flat. The jug has had a wavy rim and a long handle which is 180mm high in total, the foot diameter is 140mm and

the base has also been flat. The jug belly is c 200mm in diameter and the neck is c105mm in diameter. The overall height of the jug is c 310mm.

MB/Ce/9

Jam jar. James Keiler, Marmalade, Dundee. 90mm diameter by 85mm high.

MB/Ce/10 ****[Actually found in Area 4]**** Pl's 38 & 39

Complete salt glazed bottle, 75mm high by 30mm diameter with 20mm rim and 13mm aperture, straight sided. R & G Blair Greenock. Powel Potter Bristol. [see also MB/Ce/35]

MB/Ce/11

Teapot. Sherds including handle, spout and base of brown glazed (interior and exterior) pot. Foot diameter 85mm, rim diameter 130mm.

MB/Ce/12

Assorted sherds of blue and white plates, cups and bowls. One plate is 215mm rim diameter by 25mm deep with willow pattern, square mark on base is illegible.

MB/Ce/13 Pl 10.

Assorted sherds of various coloured vessels.

MB/Ce/14

Sherds of bowl, red earthenware with yellow slip around top of bevelled rim 25mm wide and 280mm external diameter.

MB/Ce/15

Sherds of red earthenware pot, rim everted 110mm diameter. Flower pot.

MB/Ce/16

Sherds of red earthen ware pot, dark brown internal glaze and glazed external handle moulded to pot body, flat rim bevelled and 18mm wide, internal rim diameter c 200mm, base diameter 100mm.

MB/Ce/16b

Jar, complete, salt glazed, 75mm high, 32mm diameter with 20mm rim and 10mm aperture. Found in entrance to Area 1. Another found in Area 3 (MB/Ce/48).

MB/Ce/16c

Five sherds found in Area 1 drain. Including flower pot and sherds from vessels found elsewhere.

Glass

MB/G/1

Sherds of straight sided and long necked, firebright black glass 'beer' bottles. At least 21 are represented by bases which show the bottles were free blown and measure in three different sizes of external diameter; 65mm, 75mm and 90mm; the first two sizes being half and full capacities respectively, while the larger size has an expanded base indicating it pre dates the others, being early 19th C. Six of the bases (75mm size) have '6 to the gallon' stamped into the kick up. At least 12 necks and lips of the same

glass are present and all are identical in form being mid 19th C in style. Only a few shoulder sherds are present.

MB/G/2

Sherds of an aqua half whisky bottle of ovate form and measuring 80mm by 45mm, the lip is present but no shoulder sherds were found. The bottle has been blown in a two part mould.

MB/G/3

Fragment of clear wine glass stem and bowl 50mm by 38mm.

MB/G/3b

Sherds of an early 19th C black glass bottle base with expanded base. Found in Area 1 drain.

MB/G/3c

Seven sherds of window glass.

Iron See Pl 11a.

MB/I/1

Triangular flat iron, with handle missing, 140x90x25mm thick plate.

MB/I/2

Poker, 560 long, square section poker end 190, round shaft 130 long to handle bulge, handle 200 tapers out at end to terminal pommel 20mm in diameter.

MB/I/3

Round handle and shaft (from a flue or chimney?), 100mm diameter with 70mm surviving shaft.

MB/I/4

Non moveable hook at end of flat bar 200mm long x28x5, end of flat bar bent at 90⁰ for fixing? To ceiling for vertical suspension?

MB/I/5

Hafted tool (two pieces), possibly a pitchfork. 150mm long with two prongs (90x60), remains of mineralised wooden shaft in ferrule with one rivet in place.

MB/I/6

Staple or handle 200mm long one end 50 and other 40mm.

MB/I/7

Spike, possibly square head of 40mm, 230mm long, square shaft 25mm tapering to point.

MB/I/8

Spikes 2 of, round headed and square shafts, 120 and 90mm long

MB/I/9

Assorted 'cut' nails square and rectangular section >75mm long

MB/I/10 P1 25.
Cast iron plate 290x250x7mm, corners broken off.

Bone

MB/B/1

Two fragments of butchered bones indicated by sawn ends and cut marks.

AREA 2

Ceramic

MB/Ce/17

Plate. Blue and white transfer printed, 'Florence J&MPB &Co' on base. 180mm overall diameter, depth 20mm, slight foot 110mm diameter.

MB/Ce/18

Assorted blue and white sherds from plates and other vessels, mostly of 'willow' style.

MB/Ce/19

Assorted sherds of a least six jam jars. Some with Keiler's name, (2 of bags).

MB/Ce/20

Assorted coloured and misc' sherds.

MB/Ce/21

Assorted white sherds which are not jam jars.

MB/Ce/22

Base of black tea pot, Foot diameter 45mm. Concentric ring decoration in foot and square dots on body.

MB/Ce/23

White glazed rectangular shaped dish with wavy rim and 'grape'? Decoration in base, tiny handle missing, 75 by 40mm and 15mm deep.

MB/Ce/24

Salt glazed pot/jar, 75mm diameter by 90mm high to shoulder from straight sides, neck and lip missing.

MB/Ce/25

Miscellaneous sherds from salt glazed spirit flagons and other items of stoneware and red earthenware. Including a sherd of a German mineral water bottle; Enclosed in a circle = FLT -85 and initials HN with crown above, below this is R over 15. Similar to an Apollinaris bottle.

MB/Ce/26

Sherds of a spirit flagon, half brown glaze and half white, 'John Montieth, --- Argyle St, Glasgow, with (No) 1 over A1833'.

MB/Ce/27

White glazed tea pot lid with raised floral design, handle missing, and 80mm diameter.

MB/Ce/28

Brown glazed tea pot lid with fluting design, handle missing, and 90mm diameter.

MB/Ce/29 Pl 17a.

12 of assorted sized clay marbles, two with decorated surfaces, one with marble effect and the other with concentric lines, sizes between 15mm and 21mm.

MB/Ce/30

Fragment of porcelain dolls leg, white glaze, 40 by 15mm.

MB/Ce/31

6 of assorted fragments of clay pipe stems.

MB/Ce/32

Fragments of clay pipe bowl.

MB/Ce/33

Fragment of clay pipe bowl with spur, mid 19th C.

MB/Ce/34

Button, four holes, 10mm.

Glass

MB/G/4

Sherds of firebright black glass 'beer' bottles, at least nine are represented by bases which show the bottles were free blown and measure 60mm - 75mm in diameter, three have '6 to the gallon' stamped into the kick up. Three necks and lips of the same glass are present two being typically mid 19C in form, the third may be a wine bottle rim, only a few shoulder sherds are present.

MB/G/5

Sherds of denatured glass including a neck top with string ring lip, indicative of early 18th century date.

MB/G/6 Pl 17b.

Complete aqua whisky bottle blown in three part mould with 'N & Co and 1469 embossed on base. Also sherds of another similar bottle.

MB/G/7

Base (50mm by 53mm) sherd of an aqua ovate bottle, possibly a medicine bottle.

MB/G/8

Base of an aqua free blown bottle, 55mm in diameter, medicine bottle dating to the early 18th century.

MB/G/9

Neck and lip of a clear glass bottle blown in a two part mould. Neck is 15mm above shoulder and the hand applied lip measures 20mm in diameter with a 10mm aperture.

MB/G/10 Pl 17.

Two identical light blue beads 2mm diameter by 1mm thick.

MB/G/11

Fragment of clear glass bottle lip.

MB/G/12

Assorted body sherds of aqua medicine bottle/s. c 18th C.

MB/G/13

Assorted flat aqua and clear 'window'? Glass sherds found inside building, up to 2mm thick, a few pieces show edges which have been leaded. Circa 200mm square in total. 18th Century?

MB/G/14

Assorted flat aqua and clear 'window'? Glass sherds found in front of building, up to 2mm thick, a few pieces show edges which have been leaded. Circa 150mm square in total. 18th Century?

MB/G/15

Two sherds of window glass, one with part of a 'bull's eye', the other showing traces of leading on its straight edge. 19th Century?

MB/G/16

Aqua glass bottle, neck missing, 65mm diameter, made in a two part mould. T & H Smiths essence of coffee Edinburgh & London.

MB/G/17

Miscellaneous aqua sherds including 'Hamilton' bottle and medicine bottle.

MB/G/18

Miscellaneous light olive green sherds including neck and base of wine bottle with steep kick up, probably hock bottle.

Area's 2 and 3 iron amalgamated

Iron See Pl's 25a, 25b and 25c

MB/I/11

Cast iron mill grain floor plates 2of. 285x150x5mm and 280x110x5mm, both incomplete. Perforation set at 20mm square.

MB/I/12

Cast iron fireplace door plate, 300x190x5mm thick. Parts of each hinge adhering.

MB/I/13

Chimney bar 530x30mm square section (found with chain below, MB/I/17).

MB/I/14

Chimney bar? 590x25x18mm.

MB/I/15

Strip with nail perforations, 430x30x5mm thick.

MB/I/16

Spike 380mm long, round head diameter 40mm, round section shaft 20mm tapers to point.

MB/I/17

Chain links, 4 and 7 conjoined plus three others, oval shaped 80x35mm, plus round link 55mm diameter, found with fire bar MB/I/13 above.

MB/I/18

Drain grill, 153x10, 10mm square bars, 5of, extended ends for hinging.

MB/I/19

Pintle hinges, 3of, 200x65, 100x50 and 120x55mm, square section shafts with round section hinges.

MB/I/20

'T' hinge 320x205x35mm.

MB/I/21

Scythe blade fragment 290x90mm.

MB/I/22

Horse shoe 180x160mm with caulkins and toe plate.

MB/I/23

Cast iron bar 'V' section 170x50x25mm, from grating of a steam boiler.

MB/I/24

Tongs (?) 370x62mm. Handle 90mm tapers to pommel 20mm diameter.

MB/I/25 PI 25d.

Spike hook. 310x65mm. Square section shaft 15mm, hook bends 110mm from pointed end which is harpoon shaped the same as the hook point. Boat hook?

MB/I/26

Staple, 130x75mm square section.

MB/I/27

Rectangular shaped handle 100mm square, round section with flattened ends for fixing to bucket?

MB/I/28

Chain handle, 80x70mm.

MB/I/29

Door handle, concave strap, 155x55mm both ends flanged for fixing.

MB/I/30

Handle (?) 100x50mm.

MB/I/31

Engineering hammer head, 125x45x48mm, tapered and broad hammering ends.

MB/I/32

Carpenter chisel, 165x40, blade and handle all steel.

MB/I/33

Carpenter chisel, 120x25 with tang for wooden handle.

MB/I/34

Padlock, heart shaped 80x60x20mm.

MB/I/35

Handle (?) 130x90x20 square section. With fine plain weave green cloth adhering as tiny patch. (See also key No 36a below).

MB/I/36a – d.

Door keys, 4of, fragmented and severely concreted, one is 130mm long and another [36a] is 110. No 36a also has fine plain weave green cloth [MB/CI/1 below] adhering as tiny patch. (See also handle No 35 above).

MB/I/37

Bars, 3of. One complete 170x20mm square section at centre tapers to 10mm at each end. Flat bar 160x20x10 with one complete end rounded. Round section bar/rod 260x15mm diameter.

MB/I/38

Coach bolts, 4of. > 168mm long by 15mm round section shafts, square nuts on threads 25mm square.

MB/I/39

Assorted 'cut' nails, 7of, >168mm long, square and rectangular sections.

MB/I/40

Assorted 'cut' nails, 20of, >80mm long, square and rectangular sections.

MB/I/41

Chest or trunk? Handle with split eyelet anchor for fixing to timber or stone. Oval shaped handle of rod is round section, total size 190x120mm. One half still encased in thick concretion for demonstration purposes.

MB/I/42

Part of a paraffin lamp stand, 130x50mm. Ornatly cast pedestal part with threaded shaft and traces of ceramic bowl/reservoir (2 parts).

MB/I/43

Indeterminate object, 190x50mm. Round shaft flares out to 50mm square which then continues as square shaft 25mm to threaded? zone.

MB/I/44a

Parts of fire range/s, miscellaneous cast iron parts of fire ranges have been listed together, although they may originally been separate installations in the house.

Two parts of the front? plate of a range, 530x240mm and 340x200mm. Each has a pilaster column on the edges with oval shaped florets? and top and bottom scrolls, all in relief. Each has a curved part which taken as a whole make a 200mm aperture, possibly for a door or chimney? One side has a curved projecting arm for holding pots etc.

MB/I/44b

Cast iron plate fragment 270x150mm with scrolled decoration in relief.

MB/I/44c

Cast iron edge fragment, possibly a door, 180x`160mm with scroll decoration in relief.

MB/I/44d

Cast iron plate fragment 280x240mm. Curved edge with scroll decoration in relief on 'lined' background.

MB/I/44e

Pot stand for mounting on fire range. 120mm diameter with 40mm round shaft for turning in a bracket and part of another.

MB/I/44f

Half round cast iron columns (2of, 190 and 130mm long by 30mm wide).

MB/I/44g

Two parts of a front guard for a fireplace, 230x140mm. Decorated with vertical lines and lattice work above.

MB/I/45 Pl 25e. [Conjoins with MB/I/78, Area 4, full description here]

Section of a cast iron fire back? plate, this piece is 330x300x30mm thick, and has a raised cross in half round 20mm wide by 10mm high, one edge is slightly curved and a corner has a 22mm square section notch as manufactured. Taken with the other part, it measures in total 470x300mm and appears to have been a slightly irregular shape, the original cross may have been 500mm across overall, and the corner of the smaller piece (No 78) suggest the entire object may have fitted into a frame judging by the half round edge and the flange behind it. Traces of red lead paint appear on both pieces, therefore the suggestion of a fire back may be in error, and its true purpose remains uncertain.

Cloth

MB/Cl/1

Tiny fragments of fine twill fabric, possibly wool, dyed greyish-green before weaving. Partially encrusted in ferrous residues on key MB/I/36a (above).

Stone

MB/S/1 Pl's 17 & 25j.

Gun flint, unused, 20 by 15mm.

MB/S/2 Pl 17.

Graphite pencil lead, rectangular section, 17mm long by 2mm thick.

Copper alloy

MB/Ca/1

George III halfpenny? Very worn.

MB/Ca/2

Twisted wire with four loops, 800mm.

MB/Ca/3 Pl 16.

Spoon, handle missing, 65 by 28mm much corroded.

MB/Ca/4

Swing handle from a drawer, 105mm long.

Other

MB/P/1 Pl 16.

Pewter table spoon, 220mm long, Z S AL S ON.

MB/B/2

Two halves bone handle of knife? 90 by 15mm.

MB/B/3

Assorted animal bone and teeth some with saw marks.

MB/L/1

Lead shotgun pellets of various sizes up to 5mm, seventeen of.

AREA 3**Ceramic**

MB/Ce/35

Spirit flagon sherds with Powel Potter Bristol. May be an R & G Blair Greenock pot [see also MB/Ce/10] Half brown and half white glaze.

MB/Ce/36

Three jam jars, one 120mm diameter by 110mm high, other with James Keiller & Sons Marmalade Dundee 90mm diameter by 90mm high.

MB/Ce/37

Bowl, white and 'marbled' effect glaze, foot = 170mm in diameter, other sherds include parts of handles. Wash basin?

MB/Ce/38

Miscellaneous white sherds from numerous vessels.

MB/Ce/39

Red earthenware pot, dark brown internal glaze. Foot diameter = 160mm.

MB/Ce/40 Pl 25n.

Sherds including several rims of blue and white willow type pattern plate. Rim diameter = 240mm.

MB/Ce/41

Sherds of blue and white bowl, much abraded. Rim diameter = 350mm.

MB/Ce/42

Miscellaneous blue and white sherds.

MB/Ce/43

Sherds of >2 brown glazed tea pots including foot [diameter 90mm] handles and lid.

MB/Ce/44

Brown glazed tea pot lid complete, floral design, 95mm diameter.

MB/Ce/45

Sherds of matching tea pot lid (?) and saucer/bowl, white glaze with raised blue coloured floral scroll decoration.

MB/Ce/46 Pl 25f

One of two tea cups with identical design but slightly different shaped feet. White glazed with blue/grey coloured internal and external 'branch & leaf' pattern.

MB/Ce/47 Pl 25f.

Two of two tea cups with identical design but slightly different shaped feet. White glazed with blue/grey coloured internal and external 'branch & leaf' pattern.

MB/Ce/48

Jar, complete, salt glazed, 75mm high, 32mm diameter with 20mm rim and 10mm aperture. Contained blue dye/ink. [see also MB/Ce/16b for same pot].

MB/Ce/48

MB/Ce/49

Ink pot, complete, cream/salt glazed, 50mm diameter by 50mm high.

MB/Ce/50

White glazed meat paste/cream jar, complete (from sherds), 70mm diameter by 40mm high.

MB/Ce/51

Tea cup sherds same as No's 46 & 47 above.

MB/Ce/52 Pl 25f.

Rim (diameter 75mm) of cup/beaker with blue scroll design on exterior.

MB/Ce/53 Pl 25n.

Sherds of rim (diameter 120mm) of bowl, red sponge and brushed line decoration.

MB/Ce/54 Pl 25n.

Sherd of bowl belly with red and green sponge and brushed line decoration. Diameter c 110mm.

MB/Ce/55 Pl 25n.

Rim (160mm diameter) and wall sherd of bowl with red and green sponge decoration.

MB/Ce/56 Pl 25n.

Rim (220mm diameter) sherd of bowl with blue and brown wavy line decoration.

MB/Ce/57

Miscellaneous white tea cup and other sherds.

MB/Ce/58

Miscellaneous coloured sherds, cup and other handles.

MB/Ce/59

Twenty two clay marbles of varying sizes up to 24mm, two decorated with crossing lines (tartan) of blue and red.

MB/Ce/60

White glazed nude figurine, head and parts of limbs missing, 50mm high.

MB/Ce/61

White glazed leg from a small doll, 22mm long.

MB/Ce/62 Pl's 45.

Tobacco pipe bowl with heel, sailing ship with three masts on one side and anchor on reverse, mid 19th C.

MB/Ce/63

Fragments of pipe bowls and stems, 3of each.

MB/Ce/64 Pl 25n.

Two conjoining sherds of a bowl c160mm rim diameter, white with pale green and black decoration.

MB/Ce/64a

Tobacco pipe bowl with CORK forming upper part of laurel or clover leaves; harp inside with further clover leaves, mid 19th C.

MB/Ce/64b
Fragments of pipe stems and bowls.

MB/Ce/64c
Clay marble.

Glass

MB/G/19 Pl 25l.
Clear glass disc (not a lens) 50mm diameter by 2mm thick. Possibly a picture glass.

MB/G/20 Pl 25k.
Intaglio, oval shaped 10 by 8mm, white opaque on one side and orange on the reverse.

MB/G/20a
Bead, pink colour, 5mm by 4mm.

MB/G/21 Pl 25k.
Hat pin tops, 3 of, semi spherical, black and white, 10mm diameter.

MB/G/22 Pl 25k.
Buttons, 3 of four hole round white, two circular ornate black and one square black example.

MB/G/23
Sheared or burst top 'penny ink', aqua, square 40mm by 40mm.

MB/G/24
Window glass sherds mostly aqua, some straight edges, circa 200mm square in total area, mostly thin but a few sherds from thicker panes and one near a 'bulls eye'.

MB/G/25 Pl 25m.
Two of, 'bulls eye' window panes (broken) aqua glass, (100 x 80 and 120 x 80mm).

MB/G/26
Two of sheared or burst lip 'penny ink' bottle tops only.

MB/G/27
Two of sherds clear flat glass, 6mm thick by 20mm wide.

MB/G/28
Sherds of an aqua 'Hamilton' torpedo aerated water bottle

MB/G/29
Sherds of an aqua 'Hamilton' torpedo aerated water bottle with 'Apothecary Comry'.

MB/G/30
Miscellaneous sherds of aqua bottles, including tops and bases

MB/G/31
Top and neck of an ovate shaped black glass bottle, whisky?

MB/G/32

Basal sherds of a Schiedam gin black glass bottle.

MB/G/33

Base and neck of an olive green wine bottle, Hock? Very high kick up; 60mm, flattened string ring, early 19th C (?).

MB/G/34

Reconstructed black glass beer bottle, mid 19th C.

MB/G/35

Miscellaneous sherds of black and olive green glass from beer and wine bottles including bases and top of at least sixteen bottles, two 'blob' beers and four Hock? Necks. One beer with 'six to gallon' on base.

Iron

See above.

Copper alloy

MB/CA/5 Pl 25i.

Thimble, 22mm tall by 20mm diameter.

MB/CA/6 Pl 25i.

Crotal or rumbler bell with toggle, 20mm by 20mm.

MB/CA/7

George III halfpenny (?) very worn.

MB/CA/8 Pl 25i.

Cog wheel from a clock, 25mm diameter.

MB/CA/9 Pl 25i.

Pocket watch winding key, 30mm by 10mm.

MB/CA/10

Keyhole insert for a drawer, 20mm by 9mm.

MB/CA/11

Handle for a small drawer with iron screw (corroded) 20mm by 10mm.

MB/CA/12

Oval shaped traces of gilding, possible a jewel mount, 15mm by 10mm.

Ring (not a finger ring) 22mm diameter by 1mm thick.

MB/CA/14

Half of a hinge with three screw holes, 75mm by 26mm.

MB/CA/15

Strap, rigid and possibly brass, 240mm by 7mm, incomplete.

Stone

MB/S/3 Pl 25j.

Gun flint with edge damage = used?, 20mm by 15mm.

MB/S/4

Flint chunk with cortex, possible striking damage, may be a 'strike a light' flint, found near Area 3 fireplace.

MB/S/5

Slate pencil, 65mm long by 5mm thick.

Other

MB/P/2

Toggle Button 15mm diameter.

MB/L/2 Pl 25j.

Two musket balls, 15mm diameter.

MB/L/3

Cast object with three globules attached, possibly making balls of 6mm diameter? 30mm long, plus two separate balls.

MB/LE/1

Leather strap end fragment with four holes, 30mm long by 15mm wide.

MB/W/1

Two four hole buttons and a disc, all 20mm diameter.

MB/Sh/1

Five four hole buttons, one 15mm and others 8mm diameter.

MB/Sh/2

Large oyster shell, 140mm by 130mm.

AREA 4**Ceramic**

MB/Ce/65

Blue and white sherds from various vessels of sponge and painted wares.

MB/Ce/66

Blue and white sherds from various vessels of transfer printed styles e.g. willow patterns.

MB/Ce/67

Plain white sherds of crockery from numerous vessels of differing types.

MB/Ce/68

Part of a red earthenware pot, foot diameter 140 mm, dark brown glaze internally and semi glazed exterior, apart from foot.

MB/Ce/69

Part of a red earthenware pot, foot diameter 100 mm, dark brown glaze internally and semi glazed exterior, apart from foot.

MB/Ce/70

Sherds of red earthenware pot/s, dark brown glaze, probably parts of No's 68 and or 69 above.

MB/Ce/71

Sherds of course ware and salt glazed vessels (several) including spirit flagon, flower pot? And others.

MB/Ce/72

Sherds of brown glazed tea pot/s including lids.

MB/Ce/73

Sherds from numerous vessels with coloured and decorative surfaces, many of the types and decorations seen elsewhere in other areas of the dig.

MB/Ce/74

Rim sherd of a bowl 180mm diameter (rim) with blue, green, orange and brown wavy decoration.

MB/Ce/75

Sherd of a vessel decorated with a horse and rider.

MB/Ce/76

Sherds of a cup/beaker, foot diameter 75mm. White with dark brown glazed decoration of white chevrons and line against the brown.

Glass

MB/G/36

Miscellaneous sherds of black beer bottle glass including two necks and four bases; one with '6 to the gallon', all mid 19th C.

MB/G/37

Miscellaneous sherds of aqua glass bottles.

MB/G/38

Base and body of a hexagonal olive green bottle, 50mm wide.

MB/G/39

Sherds of window glass, aqua (18th C?).

MB/G/40

Sherds of clear flat glass, 4 of, 10mm thick, and now with frosted appearance.

MB/G/41

Lip of black glass bottle, 50mm external diameter [unusual type].

MB/G/42 Pl 17b.

Sheared or burst lip 'penny ink' bottle aqua eight sided with 'Blackwood & Co London' on side.

MB/G/43

Shoulder, neck and lip of aqua ovate shaped bottle.

MB/G/44

Window glass sherds aqua, >2mm thick, total area = 150 by 120mm, some have encrustation = silvering for mirror?

MB/G/45

White four hole button, 11mm diameter.

Copper alloy

MB/CA/16 Pl 42.

Tapering bung tap for a spirit barrel, handle missing, 135mm long.

MB/CA/17 Pl 42.

Tapering bung tap for a spirit barrel, with handle but tapering bung missing, 100mm by 60mm.

MB/CA/18

Tap handle for barrel tap? 35mm by 44mm.

MB/CA/19

Horseshoe shaped suspension hook? 50mm by 40mm.

MB/CA/20

Pulley wheel, 45mm diameter by 8mm thick, with 6mm drive shaft?

MB/CA/21

Halfpenny, Young head Victoria 18 5/6 – 1.

MB/CA/22

Circular wick guide for paraffin lamp, 35mm by 15mm.

MB/CA/23

Keyhole plate, 40mm by 30mm on iron.

MB/CA/24

Double hinge with three holes each side, 56mm by 32mm.

Lead

MB/L/4 Pl 25j.

110 of shotgun pellets (12 bore?)

Leather

MB/LE/2

Fragments (4of) leather strip with copper eyelets for lacing.

MB/LE/2

Heel of a boot or shoe with tackets and part of the heel plate. Leather 65mm wide by 60mm.

Cloth

MB/CI/2 Pl's 28 & 43.

Three patches of cloth and two strips of binding of the same fabric, the total length of the binding is 335mm by 5mm, all are possibly cotton and dyed green and woven in a plain weave. Two pieces have been part of a circular shape 155mm in diameter, the other strip measures 530mm by >85mm. The circular patch has a folded hem of 5mm all round and is in a somewhat tattered condition, but not caused by decay in the ground. The curving shape of the larger piece taken with the circular patch suggests they were parts of a bonnet. An oval hole of 8mm by 6mm appears to be original and is located centrally on the large patch. The fibres are made with a right handed twist and appear to have been dyed after weaving since the colour alternates with uncoloured fibres, possibly caused by the weave pattern. Stitch holes can be seen along the edges of the pieces. On one side of the circular patches and both sides of the larger strip a felt like texture has been created either by ware or by some manufacturing process.

Bone - and iron composite.

MB/B/3

Handle of fork? With part of iron shaft (end missing), 170mm total length, and handle part is 100mm long, 15mm diameter tapering out to 20mm at end. Flatted sides and rounded edges, no decoration.

Iron See Pl 41.

MB/I/46

Girdle handle, flat bar (bent) 800mm total length, 22x5mm section, oval handle 70x50mm.

MB/I/47

Round section handle for a (wooden?) bucket, 530mm long with two fixing plates (150x70mm) each with three rivets set in triangular formation.

MB/I/48

Square section, two part handle for a cauldron? 600mm total length hooks each end and with each half joined by hooks in centre.

MB/I/49

Round section handle for a bucket/cauldron, 530mm long, ends missing.

MB/I/50

Flat bar strap, 530x25x5mm (bent).

MB/I/51

Fire poker, 480mm long, square section poker end 270mm long, handle to pommel 200mm long.

MB/I/52

Fire poker, 640mm long, square section poker end 200mm long, shaft and handle round section with pommel on end.

MB/I/53

Rod with hooked end 490mm long, possibly a fireside tool e.g. shovel?

MB/I/54

Cold chisel, 390x25mm round section shaft.

MB/I/55

Round section bar 420mm long with slightly bent or hooked end.

MB/I/56

Gate hinge, 380mm long flat bar 35x8mm thick, and eyelet at one end for pintle hinge fixing.

MB/I/57

Padlock, 'heart shaped' 90x70mm, 'PATEN' on brass key hole guard.

MB/I/58

Padlock, 'heart shaped' 90x70mm, 'PATENT' on brass key hole guard.

MB/I/59

Cold chisel, 150x40mm wide blade.

MB/I/60

Cold chisel, 200mm long expands slightly in centre of shaft.

MB/I/61

Kettle spout, 120mm by 120mm.

MB/I/62

Bill hook blade and tang, blade 260x60mm tang 120mm long.

MB/I/63

Sickle blade and tang, 280mm long (incomplete).

MB/I/64

Draw hoe blade, 190x120mm.

MB/I/65

Square handle for a bucket, 100x100mm, ends flanged for fixing.

MB/I/66

Pintle hinge, 140x50mm, square section shaft and round section hinge.

MB/I/67

Coach screws (3of) 190mm long, 15mm round section shafts and 30mm square nuts on threads.

MB/I/68

Swivel eyelet (one half of) 30x30mm.

MB/I/69

Drain grill half of and broken, 170x90mm.

MB/I/70

Possible 'cruisic lamp' 110x80x25mm deep, broken and badly corroded.

MB/I/71

Nails, 15 of, >160mm long.

MB/I/72

Rods 3of, >130mm long, one from a drain grill [MB/I/69?].

MB/I/73

Boot or shoe heel plate, 80x70mm.

MB/I/74

Triangular section files, 2of, one 150mm and other 130mm long, 10mm sections.

MB/I/75

Right angle hook, 100x50mm.

MB/I/76 Pl 30.

Fire place grill, 320x200mm total, seven bars 130mm long with swivel/swing bar, made from individually forged pieces.

MB/I/77

Three legged cast iron cauldron fragments, rim diameter 300mm and 200mm deep.

MB/I/78 Pl 25e. [Conjoins with MB/I/45, Area 3, see above for full description]
Section of a cast iron fire back? plate, this piece is 260x140x30mm thick. It comprises of a corner with a rounded raised line on one side 200mm wide by 10mm high, the complete corner has a raised half round section of 30mm wide and with a notched alignment (to form a flange?) along the rear edge. Traces of red lead paint adhere to its flat surfaces.

Area 4 Midden

Ceramic

MB/Ce/77

Bowl, 240mm rim diameter by c90mm deep, Black on white, roses? And harebells over exterior and interior including base, ornate rim decoration, transfer printed.

MB/Ce/78

Bowl, rim diameter 180mm, Brown sponge decoration of drop leaves around external rim and florets over the sides.

MB/Ce/79

Bowl 140mm rim diameter, same style decoration as No 78 above except in this case the colour is bright blue.

MB/Ce/80

Bowl 140mm rim diameter, similar drop leaf decoration around external rim but in purple.

MB/Ce/81

Bowl, foot diameter 50mm, rim diameter 100mm, total height 80mm. Light blue decoration with stripes top and bottom, white raised Irish setters in bushes, probably four originally against blue background.

MB/Ce/82

Sherds of two, possibly three saucers same decoration, rim diameter 150mm, foot diameter 75mm. Blue/grey branches and fronds on insides against white. One foot marked 'Fibre' and J MRB (?) with no 3 below and two maple type leaves, the other marked 'Fibre' with flowers.

MB/Ce/83

Saucer, rim diameter 120mm, foot diameter 65mm, Blue sponge decoration inside.

MB/Ce/84

Bowl, rim diameter 120mm, blue sponge decoration external side.

MB/Ce/85

Bowl rim sherds, 140mm diameter, sponge decoration and lines in Red, Blue and green cordons.

MB/Ce/86

Bowl sherds of green and red sponge decoration.

MB/Ce/87

Saucer, 160mm rim diameter by 60mm diameter foot. Blue sponge decoration around interior of rim.

MB/Ce/88

Saucer, rim diameter 150mm, purple leaf & grape decoration around internal rim.

MB/Ce/89

Cup & Saucer 160mm rim diameter, foot 60mm, purple coloured leaf design around internal rim and on base, also a cup base with same design.

MB/Ce/90

Bowl rim sherds 120mm diameter with blue, red and yellow sponge decoration.

MB/Ce/91

Bowl rim 180 mm diameter blue decoration.

MB/Ce/92

Saucer 150mm rim diameter and foot diameter 85mm. decorated with pale purple fronds and dots.

MB/Ce/93

Rim sherds of large vessel, navy blue decoration on external side.

MB/Ce/94

Foot sherd, 90mm diameter, black glaze both sides, dot decoration in two lines, bowl/tea pot?

MB/Ce/95

Various coloured and decorated sherds of numerous vessels.

MB/Ce/96

Saucer rim diameter 160mm foot diameter 85mm, decorated with tiny leaves all over inside.

MB/Ce/97

Bowl, 140mm rim diameter foot diameter 60mm and 60mm total height. Orange/beige colour with white stripes in two bands of three lines.

MB/Ce/98

Plain white jam jar, 105mm diameter by 100mm high.

MB/Ce/99

Miscellaneous beige coloured sherds from several vessels.

MB/Ce/100

Miscellaneous plain white sherds from numerous vessels.

MB/Ce/101

Small flower pots sherds.

MB/Ce/102

Various sherds from at least three brown glazed tea pots including three pot lids and base mark; 'Bellfield & Co, fireproof, Prestonpans'

MB/Ce/103

Sherds of large bowl rim diameter c340mm foot diameter c240mm, flat rim 20mm. Red earthenware, brown glaze and yellow slip decoration, similar to No MB/Ce/2,

MB/CE/104

Blue and white decorated saucer, rim diameter 150mm, foot diameter 70mm, 20mm deep, willow style.

MB/Ce/105

Base of a willow pattern aшет, oval base 170mm by 125mm, mark on base = laurel leaves and crown and bell inside illegible inscription.

MB/Ce/106

Base of a willow pattern plate, foot diameter 105mm, mark on base = square with 'semi china' inside and 'J&MPR&Co'.

MB/Ce/107

Numerous blue and white and willow pattern sherds from several vessels.

MB/Ce/108

Salt glaze and course ware sherds.

MB/Ce/109

Matching pair of ceramic legs from a doll, 28mm high.

MB/Ce/110

Two clay marbles.

MB/Ce/111

Fragments of clay pipe bowls and stems.

MB/Ce/112

Clay pipe bowl with three masted ship on one side and three pronged thistle on reverse, mid 19th C.

MB/Ce/113

Clay pipe bowl (broken) with 'Burns Cutty Pipe' on both sides of stem.

MB/Ce/114

Unmarked clay pipe bowl mid 19th C.

MB/Ce/115

Pipe stem with 'Gl---' on one side and '---gall' on reverse.

Glass

MB/G/46

Black glass bases, necks and sherds from at least twelve beer bottles, four of them half size, four with '6 to the gallon' on base, and half bottle with 'C W & Co' on base. Eight necks and tops all mid 19th C date.

MB/G/47

Wine glass fragment of stem and bowl, clear glass, bowl has nine facets on side. 65mm by 40mm.

MB/G/48

Four tops of aqua, medicine bottles.

MB/G/49

Fragments of clear glass small bottles including two bases.

MB/G/50

Fragments of miscellaneous aqua bottles.

MB/G/51

Parts of four aqua small bottles, medicine and one whisky.

MB/G/52

Two bases of aqua glass bottles, possibly 18th C medicine, both with 60mm diameter bases with kick up. Also base and neck of clear glass bottle of similar age, base is 30mm diameter with pontil scar.

MB/G/53

Flat aqua window glass sherds circa 100mm square in total.

Copper alloy

MB/CA/25

Coin, young head Victoria, halfpenny, date illegible.

Leather

MB/LE3

Fragment of leather with five copper eyelets, 60mm by 20mm.

MB/LE/4

Heel of small shoe or high heel shoe plus fragments of leather (3of), 40mm by 35mm.

Stone

MB/S/6

Shale/siltstone, faceted each end by forming points, used as a marker or pencil? 50mm by 16mm by 5mm thick.

Area 4 Drain No 7

MB/CE/116

Miscellaneous sherds 19th C.

MB/G/54

Miscellaneous black glass fragments and one aqua top from a medicine bottle, 19th C.

Area 4 under floor

MB/Ce/117 Pl 40.

Small quantity of mixed sherds of various vessels, all 19th C.

MB/G/54a

Miscellaneous thick and thin window glass, black and aqua bottle glass 3 of each.

Trench No 1

NGR: NS25033 81641

Ceramic

MB/Ce/118 Pl's 55, 56 & 57.

Bowl, early 18th C. Rim diameter 270mm foot diameter 111mm, total height 135mm, internal depth 115mm. Rim is very slightly everted and the bowl is made from a grey fabric glazed on both sides with a dark brown 'metallic' lustre, externally the glaze covers the top 75% of the bowl and trails over the lower unglazed part and foot. Internally the surface is decorated overall with a dark yellow slip with five upper cordons of lines with 'pulled down' slip trails, the lower part of the bowl has three zones of 'blob' decoration on the same slip.

MB/Ce/119 Pl 60.

Bowl, early 18th C. Rim diameter 190mm foot diameter 65mm, total height 65mm, internal depth 50mm. Rim is very slightly everted and the bowl is made from a red earthenware fabric glazed on both sides with a dark brown 'metallic' lustre, externally the glaze covers the top 90% of the bowl down to the lower unglazed part and foot. Internally the surface is decorated overall with a dark yellow slip with 'blob' decoration overall and a 10mm line around the rim in the same yellow slip.

MB/Ce/120

Beaker or jug, early 18th C. Red earthenware. Rim sherd diameter 100mm. The body is glazed on both sides in a brown colour apart from the flat foot and lowest part of the vessel above the foot on the outside. A lighter coloured brown glaze forms a spiralling cordon of irregular spacing on the external side. The foot diameter is 80mm and the body expands out slightly from it to a height of 50mm, and then tapers in towards the top which is missing. The scar of the lower part of a handle is evident and two handle fragments are present.

MB/Ce/121 Pl 58.

Bowl, early 18th C. Red earthenware sherds. Foot diameter 75mm. Brown glaze both sides with glaze extending to base of foot but unglazed on the foot. Internally the bowl is decorated with a yellow slip applied overall as trailing blobs.

MB/Ce/122 Pl 58.

Bowl, early 18th C sherd. Base and foot only. Flat unglazed foot diameter is 65mm in diameter. Bowl has been decorated in brown glaze down the base of the foot on the outside and internally with the same brown with applied yellow slip in the form of blobs.

MB/Ce/123 Pl 58.

Bowl sherds, early 18th C. Red earthenware. Rim diameter 160mm diameter. Glazed both sides in brown colour with external and internal rim line in yellow slip >10mm. Inside has been decorated in yellow slip 'blobs' the same as N's 119 and 121 above.

MB/Ce/124 Pl 58.

Bowl sherds, early 18th C. Red earthenware. Rim diameter 140mm diameter. Glazed both sides in brown colour with external and internal rim line in yellow slip >8mm. Inside has been decorated in yellow slip 'blobs' the same as N's 119, 121 and 123 above. Unglazed flat foot diameter is 60mm and the upper part of a handle survives

MB/Ce/125 Pl 58.

Sherd of a handle similar to No 124 above but slightly smaller in size, the body has internal 'blob' yellow slip glaze.

MB/Ce/126

Sherds, early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown with yellow slip trail decoration, rim diameter 220mm.

MB/Ce/127

Foot sherds, 5 of from different pots, early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown with yellow slip trail decoration, foot diameters c80mm.

MB/Ce/128 Pl 59.

Rim sherds of bowl/jug. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown both sides with yellow slip trail decoration around the everted rim which has a diameter of 130mm.

MB/Ce/129 Pl 59.

Jug sherds. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown both sides with yellow slip trail decoration >8mm broad and in two lines around the exterior side.

MB/Ce/130 Pl 59.

Beaker/jug sherd. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown both sides with wavy yellow slip trail decoration >8mm broad and in five lines around the exterior side.

MB/Ce/131 Pl 59.

Bowl/plate rim sherds. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated inside only with brown glaze and yellow slip in trailed blobs and lines. Rim diameter 205mm.

MB/Ce/132 Pl 59.

Body sherds. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated both sides with brown glaze, yellow slip on exterior as cordon of three lines >6mm broad.

MB/Ce/133

Rim sherd of bowl/jug. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated both sides with brown glaze, yellow slip band around the rim >15mm wide, rim diameter 120mm.

MB/Ce/134

Bowl sherds. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated both sides with brown glaze, pale yellow slip 'blobs' on interior, flat unglazed foot diameter 75mm.

MB/Ce/135 Pl 58.

Bowl sherds. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated both sides with brown glaze, yellow slip 'blobs' on interior and thin line >5mm around the upper side of the rim which has a diameter of 160mm, unglazed foot diameter 70mm.

MB/Ce/136

Bowl/plate sherd. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated inside only with brown glaze and yellow slip.

MB/Ce/137

Base sherds of bowl/plate. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown and yellow slip glaze on interior only, foot diameter 120mm.

MB/Ce/138

Rim sherds of bowl. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Dark brown metallic lustre glaze both sides and yellow slip on interior with line around the rim which is 140mm diameter.

MB/Ce/139

Base sherds of bowl/jug. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated both sides with brown glaze, yellow slip 'blobs' on interior, unglazed flat foot is 60mm diameter.

MB/Ce/140

Miscellaneous sherds of early 18th C. Red earthenware with brown and yellow slip decoration.

MB/Ce/141

Sherds of jug/flagon. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated both sides with brown glaze, interior completely and exterior probably down 75% to unglazed flat foot of 80mm diameter.

MB/Ce/142

Sherds of jug/flagon. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Decorated both sides with brown glaze, interior completely and exterior down to unglazed flat foot of 110mm diameter. Two sherds with handle scars [one probably from another vessel], one sherd with interior yellow slip decoration.

MB/Ce/143

Miscellaneous rim sherds of several vessels from early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown glaze and yellow slip ware decoration.

MB/Ce/144

Miscellaneous sherds of several vessels from early 18th C. Red earthenware. Brown glaze and yellow slip ware decoration.

MB/Ce/145

Miscellaneous base sherds [6of] of flat unglazed foots with c 100mm diameter, brown and yellow slip decoration on interiors.

MB/Ce/146

Sherds of flask/bottle. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Dark brown glaze both sides, completely on interior and c75% down to unglazed flat foot 140mm diameter. Shoulder slopes inwards to everted rim of only 70mm diameter.

MB/Ce/147

Sherds of cup/beaker. Early 18th C. Red earthenware. Dark brown glaze overall except for base of outside. Everted rim has diameter of 80mm.

MB/Ce/148

Sherds of jug? Early 18th C. Grey fabric and lustrous brown glaze overall including flat foot which has a diameter of 110mm. Rim diameter 120mm and raised grooves around sides in zones.

MB/Ce/149

Rim sherd of dark brown glaze, diameter c140mm. Early 18th C?

MB/Ce/150

Basal sherds of pot, foot diameter 120mm, white/grey fabric. Early 18th C? Pellet decoration in line around foot and possibly fire affected.

MB/Ce/151

Sherds of yellow glazed vessel with dark brown slip heavily crazed. Early 18th C.

MB/Ce/152

Flat basal sherd of red earthenware pot, encrusted on interior with brown glaze layer = glass layer >4mm thick. Early 18th C?

MB/Ce/153

Sherds of large red earthenware pot, >8mm thick with very rough dark brown glaze both sides. Early 18th C? [Parts of No 160 below?]

MB/Ce/154

Reconstructed body [only] of a spirit flagon? Brown glaze external and internal but with unglazed lower external sides, red earthenware, Early 18th C? No indication of decoration, widest both girth c225mm diameter.

MB/Ce/155

Open topped pot, massive flat rim 30mm broad and 300mm external diameter. Flat unglazed base is c140mm diameter. Dark brown/black glaze overall except for lower part of external sides and base. Finger fluting decoration both sides all over. Red earthenware early 18th C?

MB/Ce/156

Miscellaneous sherds of dark brown/black glazed pots, including rim sherd similar but smaller than No 155 above. Four base sherds and handle sherds, all red earthenware, 18th/19th C?

MB/Ce/157 Pl's 62 & 63

Chamber pot. Course ware with orange/green glaze both sides. Handle scars on belly of the pot. Rim heavily everted and rounded external diameter 220mm. 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/158 Pl 61.

Base sherd of large green glazed pot, foot diameter 120mm. 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/159 Pl 61.

Base sherd of large green glazed pot, foot diameter 120mm. 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/160

Base sherds [2of] of a large course ware pot of grey fabric, dark brown glaze internal, flat foot diameter 220mm. [part of No 153 above?] 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/161

Base sherd of course ware pot, flat foot diameter 100mm. 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/162 Pl 61.

Base sherd of a large stoneware, flat bottomed salt glazed pot, flat foot diameter 160mm.

MB/Ce/163 Pl 61.

Everted rim sherd of unglazed pot, rim diameter 180mm. 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/164 Pl 61.

Salt glazed rim of large jug, internal rim diameter 80mm, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/165 Pl 61.

Green glazed everted rim of a large bowl, external rim diameter 200mm, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/166 Pl 61.

Green glazed fluted rim of a jug, external rim diameter 100mm, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/167 Pl 61.

Green glazed fluted rim of a jug, external rim diameter 120mm, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/168 Pl 61.

Green glazed fluted rim of a jug, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/169 Pl 61.

Green glazed everted rim sherds [2of] of a large bowl, external rim diameter 220mm, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/170

Green glazed sherds [4of] of large pots, three with handle scars, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/171

Green glazed sherd of large pot, shoulder to neck, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/172 Pl 61.

Green glazed sherd of large pot, shoulder to neck, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/173 Pl 61.

Green glazed sherd of large pot, shoulder to neck with wavy line decoration, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/174 Pl 61.

Green glazed sherd of large pot, shoulder to neck with line decoration, 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/175 Pl 61.

Parts of three green glaze strap handles from large pots and finger impressions of base of another. 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/176

Sherds of green glazed large pot/s, grey fabric with incised line decoration at shoulder and neck. 17th/18th century?

MB/Ce/177

Miscellaneous sherds of coarse wares, 17th – 19th centuries?

MB/Ce/178

Miscellaneous sherds of red earthenware yellow glazed bowls, some with brown slip, 18th – 19th centuries?

MB/Ce/179

Miscellaneous coarse and stone ware sherds mostly salt glazed 18th – 19th centuries?

MB/Ce/180

Pot lid. Dome shaped with handle on top, light blue/green glaze on exterior surface, Diameter 110mm overall, 80mm high, with flange for fitting pot with 75mm internal rim diameter. Age uncertain.

MB/Ce/181

Large quantity of plain white, off white, beige crockery from numerous vessels including jam jars, cups, saucers bowls and others. Mostly 19th century.

MB/Ce/182

Miscellaneous blue and white sherds from numerous vessels mainly transfer printed willow pattern types, 19th C.

MB/Ce/183

Miscellaneous dark brown sherds from tea pots, including lids and handles.

MB/Ce/184

Miscellaneous blue and white sherds, from numerous vessels including tea cups, saucers and bowls, 19th C.

MB/Ce/185 Pl 67.

Miscellaneous coloured and decorated sherds, from numerous vessels including tea cups, plates, saucers and bowls, 19th C.

MB/Ce/186

Bowl. White with blue sponge decoration of leaves dropping from external rim. Rim diameter 150mm, foot diameter 70mm, depth 70mm. 19th C.

MB/Ce/187

Bowl. White with blue sponge decoration of leaves dropping from external rim and florets all over outside. Rim diameter 180mm, foot diameter 85mm, depth 80mm. 19th C.

MB/Ce/189

Bowl sherds. White with brown sponge decoration of leaves dropping from external rim and birds in bush around outside. Rim diameter 100mm. 19th C.

MB/Ce/190

Bowl sherds from four vessels. White with purple sponge decoration of leaves dropping from external rim and florets on outside. Rim diameters c 140mm. 19th C.

MB/Ce/191

Sherds of an ornate jug wavy rim 100mm diameter. Decorated on external side with raised clover leaves and thistles and on inside with a plant in a bowl. 19thC.

MB/Ce/192

Sherds of cups and bowl with same decoration, blue/grey branches and fronds on exterior and insides against white. Cup rim diameter 90mm.

MB/Ce/193

Sherds of dark blue plate rim diameter 190mm. Leaves and peony? roses design. 19thC.

MB/Ce/194

Sherds of blue and white bowl, overall floral design on exterior and dropping from rim on inside, rim diameter 140mm, raised foot diameter c 80mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/195

Rim sherds of a shallow blue and white plate with floral decoration on inside, rim diameter 140mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/196

Sherds of a blue and white bowl with floral decoration on outside, foot diameter 90mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/197

Sherds of brown sponge decoration intermixed with green and beige, Tea pot? Or bowl? Slightly raised foot diameter 90mm and has pellets around the base, rim [which is for a lid] diameter c50mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/198

Sherds of an off white bowl and cup, same decoration of tapering flutes on inside and outside (rims) with light green glaze, raised foot diameter 80mm rim diameter 60mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/199

Sherds of shallow bowl or saucer, Rim diameter 150mm foot diameter 85mm. White with delicate fronds and dots in purple, No '642' on base. 19thC.

MB/Ce/200

Sherds of shallow bowl or saucer, Rim diameter 150mm foot diameter 85mm. White with delicate fronds and dots in purple, only slightly different decoration from No 199 above. 19thC.

MB/Ce/201

Sherds of a saucer rim diameter 160mm, white with purple floral decoration around internal rim. 19thC.

MB/Ce/202

Miscellaneous sherds from cups and saucers with purple floral decoration. 19thC.

MB/Ce/203

Miscellaneous sherds of black and white decorated saucers bowls. 19thC.

MB/Ce/204

Sherds of a bowl with green and blue external line decoration, rim diameter 140mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/205

Sherds of a bowl decorated with brown line around rim and blue and green floral decoration, rim diameter 160mm, 19thC.

MB/Ce/206

Sherds of a white bowl with coloured floral decoration inside and out, foot diameter 100mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/207

Sherds of a bowl or cup with blue and red decoration of floral patterns, handle similarly decorated. 19thC.

MB/Ce/208

Sherd of a multi coloured (faded) bowl. Oriental appearance.

MB/Ce/209

Miscellaneous sherds with brown decoration, tea pots/bowls, 19thC.

MB/Ce/210

Sherds of Keiller and MacDonald marmalade jars. 19thC.

MB/Ce/211

Pot lid (half of) 'Establishment 95 St Vincent Street' with part of 'Let Glasgow Flourish' in interior. 70mm overall diameter. 19thC. [see also MB/Ce/234 for other half]

MB/Ce/212

Two small salt glazed pots 75mm tall by 33mm diameter, one with missing top.

MB/Ce/213

Sherds of two small flower pots, some with paint adhering. 19thC.

MB/Ce/214

White glazed naked figurine, torso and upper legs only, 25mm by 15mm. 19thC.

MB/Ce/215

Clay marble salt glazed.

MB/Ce/216

Tobacco pipe bowls; seven complete and five fragments, all mid 19thC. Two are marked 'TW'; Thomas White of Glasgow, one is marked 'Garibaldi', two are marked 'CORK' above a garland containing a harp, and four are unmarked. Only the 'TW' bowls have heels.

MB/Ce/217

Tobacco pipe stem fragments; 14 of unmarked and 3 of marked 'McDougall Glasgow'.

Lead

MB/L/5 Musket ball, 16mm diameter, unfired.

Stone

MB/S/7

Flint chunk with cortex at two areas, 85mm by 50mm. Flake scarring show that the reduction was not done in an expeditious manner suggesting it is not a pre historic piece.

Bone

MB/B/4

Assortment of bone, mostly large mammal, probably cow but also a leg bone which may be sheep/deer, also large teeth and part of a jaw bone.

Glass

MB/G/55 Pl 66.

Large quantity of molten bottle glass, all contorted, apparently all 18th C, including several bases of both onion and mallet bottles and six necks and lips with string ring. The black glass has turned a pale blue in many cases due to the effects of heat.

MB/G/56

Large quantity of mixed black and olive green bottle sherds including parts of bases, and shoulders, mixed 18th/19th centuries.

MB/G/57

Large quantity of mixed black glass bottle bases and base sherds:

4 of bases diameter >150mm. 18th C onion bottles.

21 of bases diameter 95mm – 115mm, many with flared basal sides. 18thC mallet bottles.

7 of bases diameter c75mm, one with '6 to gallon'. 19th C bottles.

Plus; Quantity of mixed 18th/19th C bases sherds.

MB/G/58 Pl 65.

Black glass bottle neck and string ring lip. 93mm long, lip extends >8mm above string ring which is 30mm in diameter. 17th/18thC?

MB/G/59 (a, b, and c) Pl 65.

Three black glass bottle necks and string ring lips. Flaring immediately from the string ring shows these necks to have been from onion bottles c 1700AD.

MB/G/60

String ring lips from >thirty one black bottles and numerous other sherds of necks and shoulders. Mostly 18th C but some may be later.

MB/G/61 PI 64.

Sherds of at least three 18thC medicine bottles in aqua glass, one complete and two partial necks and three bases, the latter being 53mm, 50mm and 48mm diameter, the complete neck possibly matches the largest base.

MB/G/62 PI 64.

Base of an 18thC medicine bottle in pale aqua glass, 25mm in diameter.

MB/G/63 PI 64.

Lip, neck and upper body of an 18thC medicine phial, in aqua glass. Body diameter 16mm total, neck is 10-12mm and lip is 23mm in diameter.

MB/G/64 PI 64.

Lip and neck of an 18thC medicine bottle in aqua glass. Neck internal diameter 25mm and lip is 40mm in diameter.

MB/G/65 PI 64.

Partial neck and lip of a clear glass medicine? Bottle, made in a two part mould = 19th C.

MB/G/66

Shoulder sherds of an aqua bottle with seal, 'DV' with 'No 7' below and illegible figures below that.

MB/G/67

Lip, neck and shoulder? Sherds of deep aqua glass, 18thC, medicine? Short neck is 15mm high and lip is c52mm in external diameter.

MB/G/68

Sherds of a clear glass drinking glass, 70mm diameter. 18thC?

MB/G/69

Miscellaneous clear and aqua glass sherds, including clear glass base of possible 18th C medicine bottle c50mm diameter.

MB/G/70

Bulls eye window glass pane sherd, aqua, 90x80x20mm thick.

MB/G/71

Sherd of a clear glass tumbler, with fluted decoration springing from the base. 19thC.

MB/G/72

Miscellaneous aqua glass sherds including ink bottle, sauce? Bottle and others, mostly 19thC but some may be earlier.

MB/G/73

Large quantity of thin aqua window glass including one molten piece with traces of lead glazing, mostly 18thC?

MB/G/74

Three square 'Penny ink' bottles complete, sheared or burst lips, two in aqua and one in darker aqua, 40mm square by >55mm high.

Trench No 2

NGR: NS 25012 81637

MB/Ce/218

Bowl. Red earthenware 18th/19th C? Pale yellow glaze overall interior with brown sponge 'blob' also overall, exterior unglazed. Rim flange 20mm wide and 300mm diameter, flat base diameter 180mm.

MB/Ce/219 Pl 68.

Miscellaneous plain white pottery sherds of jam jars cups and saucers etc. 19thC.

MB/Ce/220

Sherds of cups, saucers and bowls, blue/grey branches and fronds on insides against white. 19thC.

MB/Ce/221

Sherds of brown glaze with yellow slip, large bowl, 18th/19thC?

MB/Ce/222

Sherd of grey fabric green glaze and orange fabric rim? 17th/18thC? See similar from Trench No 1.

MB/Ce/223

Two sherds of brown glaze with yellow slip, 18th/19thC?

MB/Ce/224

Clay marble.

MB/Ce/225

Sherds of red earthenware and tea pot sherds. 19thC.

MB/Ce/226

Miscellaneous sherds of coloured and decorative 19thC including blue and white transfer wares.

Glass

MB/G/75

Black glass bottle bases, 19thC.

MB/G/76

Four sherds; clear glass tumbler/vase base, Hock bottle lip, blue medicine bottle neck and 'coffin' whisky bottle. 19thC.

Trench No 3

NGR: NS 25020 81635

MB/Ce/227

Miscellaneous 19thC sherds, including brown glazed heel from a Wemyss Ware boot warmer?

MB/G/77

Three sherds of black glass bottle including base with '6 to gallon'.

Trench No 4

NGR: NS 25018 81639

MB/Ce/228

Miscellaneous 19thC sherds.

Iron

MB/I/79

Pointed spike, 220mm long, 22mm diameter at wide end and with an eyelet at that end.

Trench No 5

NGR: NS 25035 81652

MB/Ce/229

Sherds of cups and saucers white glazed with blue/grey coloured internal and external 'branch & leaf' pattern. 19thC.

MB/Ce/230

Sherds of red earthenware bowl with yellow slip on brown glaze, 18/19thC?

MB/Ce/231

Base sherd of blue and white transfer printed vessel. 19thC.

MB/Ce/232

Rim sherds of cream coloured vessel with raised decoration of blue garland. 19thC.

MB/Ce/233

Cup handle brown external glaze cream inside, exterior decoration of brown 'blobs' on cream. 18th/19thC?

MB/Ce/234

Half of a pot lid, 'Glasgow Apothecaries Company Branch' fits the other half found in T1 [see also MB/Ce/211 for other half] 19thC. [conjoined and in bag with 211]

MB/Ce/235

Sherds of a white bowl with sponge decoration on external side of brown/yellow lines and wavy decoration.

MB/Ce/236 Pl 69.

Miscellaneous sherds all types 19th C.

MB/G/78

Bulls eye window glass

MB/G/79

Miscellaneous glass sherds

Trench No 6 NGR: NS 25023 81641

MB/Ce/237

Eight sherds misc' 19thC pottery.

MB/G/80

Two sherds of 19thC bottle glass.

Trench No 7 NGR: NS 25012 81634

NO FINDS

Trench No 8 NGR: NS 25029 31639

Few 19th century crockery pieces included with 'Random finds' below.

Random finds, being objects picked up around the general area of the site but not all plotted.

MB/Ce/238 Pl 70.

Miscellaneous 19th C crockery sherds, many being the same types and patterns found in other places.

MB/Ce/238

Circular knob/handle? 25mm diameter by 8mm, beige coloured, central hole 4mm.

MB/G/81

Miscellaneous black and aqua glass sherds.

MB/Ca/25

Toggle button, plain front, back gilded with 'DOUBLE GILT' and laurel wreath design. Double gilt buttons had two coatings of gilding, Treble Gilt buttons were also available. They were made until 1830's when new machines made it easier to make more ornate buttons.

MB/S/8 Pl 71.

Original find on Millbrae. Cream coloured flint secondary flake, edge ware/damage along both sides, 30x18x4mm. NS 24998 81623.

MB/S/9 Pl 72.

Pitchstone chunk, found 50m NE of the cottage site; [Circa NS 2510 8170]. Measuring 45mm long by >25 x 15mm thick, one end is slightly pointed and with a small fresh flake scar which may be modern resulting from forestry activity. The remainder of the piece has a 'scuffed' appearance but which also includes a long flake scar the full length of the stone, this and the shape suggests it may have been a core which was seldom used. It is not the first pitchstone piece to be recorded from Rosneath Peninsula as several flakes have been found by fieldwalking in the area by Sandra Kelly (D&ES 2017).

Follows the report on the other sites at Millbrae. Fig and Plate numbers respect this report and are not contiguous with those above.

The excavation and sampling of various features discovered at Millbrae Forest on the southern tip of Rosneath Peninsula, Argyll.

Tam Ward 2016

Abstract

After the excavation of Millbrae Cottages in an area of clear felled forestry, the remainder of the forestry area was inspected for further archaeological evidence. Seven sites which were disturbed by the forestry activity were found and these are reported here along with a previously discovered unfinished mill wheel lying on the hill. Each of the seven sites were betrayed by the presence of charcoal and burnt stone and in one instance by iron slag. Samples of slag and charcoal have been recovered from most locations and have been processed in readiness for dating purposes. The work provides the first recorded burnt mounds and iron slag site on the Rosneath Peninsula.

Introduction

The report describes the work done on a series of features discovered at Millbrae Forest during re planting. The results for each investigated site are given *after* the original survey reports which are repeated here. The rationale for the investigative work was that most sites had been severely damaged during the forestry operations, but it is recognised that the sites would not have been discovered at this time without the effects of the forestry operations.

A separate report exists for the excavation of Millbrae Cottages [above] (Ward 2016).

The sites (Fig 1) are located between 60m and 90m OD, on the SE flank of Tom na h-Airidh (hill), due west of Mill of Camsail and in the Hill of Camsail Plantation (a commercial forest), it is on the SE tip of Rosneath Peninsula in Argyll. The location may be found on OS Explorer Map, Loch Lomond South, and Sheet No 347 (Fig 1).

The new plantation of Millbrae covers an area of 20.2 hectares out of a total of 360 hectares which is the entire area of the Rosneath Woodlands.

Methodology

A detailed walk over of the steeply sloping ground was carried out, paying particular attention to finding artefacts, features and burnt deposits, especially burnt stone and charcoal. No artefacts were found other than modern items.

Several locations were excavated where burnt material was found and if charcoal was recovered it has been wet sieved by flotation to 2mm and 0.3mm sieves, the flots were

cleaned of extraneous material such as root fibre and grit as much as was practicable and the samples were dried at room temperature, weighed and bagged for future work. The current results are given in each report and the analyses of the charcoal has been done (App I), some samples may be C¹⁴ dated in due course, however Tilhill Forestry has already commissioned the dating of Site No 7.

Each location has been *extensively* recorded by digital photography and one site (No 6) has been drawn.

The excavations were carried out only on the limitations of the various deposits or features as exposed and were not extended beyond them to any great distance, it is therefore accepted that some associated archaeological evidence may exist outwith the current excavation limits in some places.

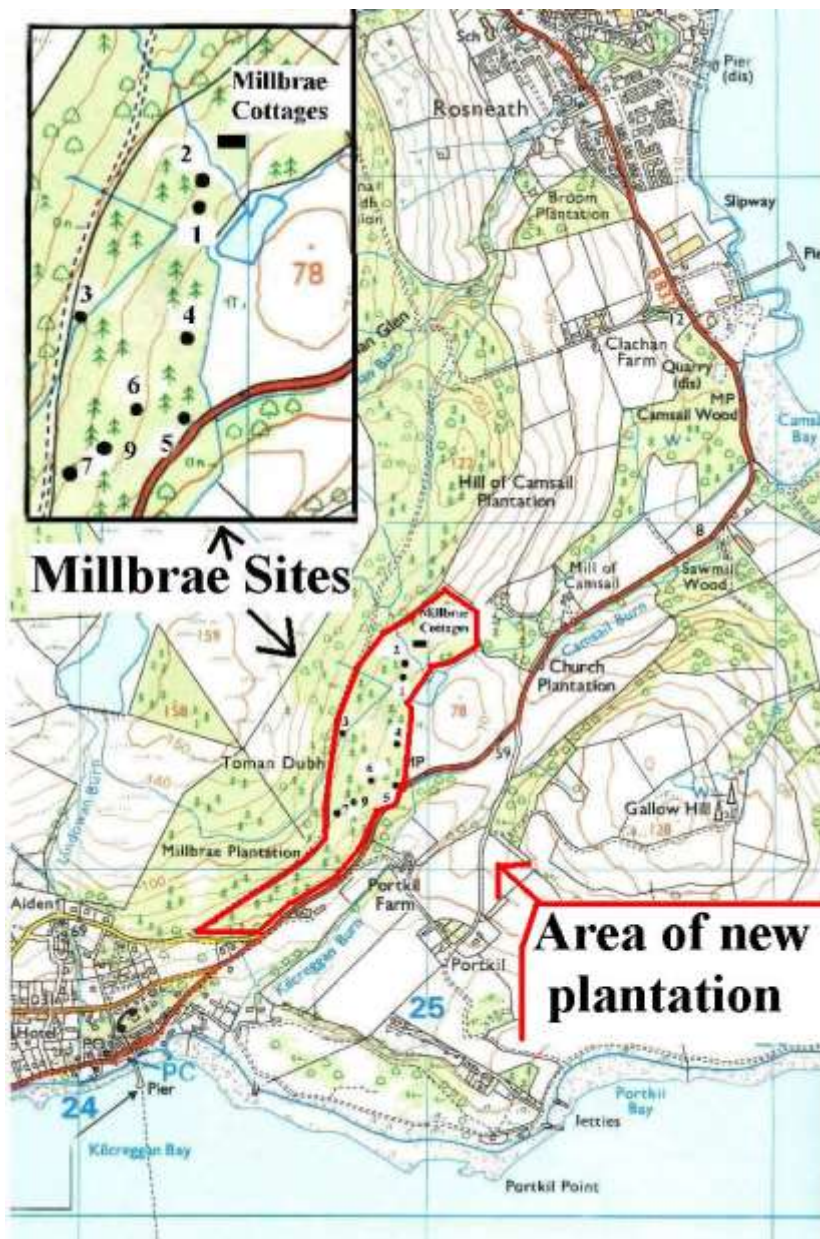


Fig 1. Site locations.

Individual reports

Millbrae Plantation No 1.

Burnt Mound.

NS 24912 81547

70m OD

Survey report.

The burnt mound consists of reddened and heat shattered rocks of the local schistose type set in a matrix of dark soil which contains charcoal fragments. The mound has been up to 0.5m deep and spreads to c5-6m in diameter, it is located on a protruding bluff on the otherwise sloping hillside. When discovered an unnamed spring ran directly over the deposit, having been re routed by forestry operations, it probably originally flowed on the west side of the site. The mound is located in a clear felled area and was only found because the recent re-planting operations has caused six cuts into the deposit by machine digger.

The site when in use was a prominent location on the hill with views south towards Greenock and the Clyde estuary and east towards Helensburgh and Ben Bowie (hill) where two similar sites were recently discovered by the same reporter. The burnt mound given here is the first to be recorded on Rosneath Peninsula.

Excavation

The overflowing spring was diverted to its original course and the mound size was determined by excavating around the perimeter, this showed its size to be 4m in diameter as a dome shaped mound up to 0.5m deep, residual burnt stone lay around it.

A sample of 14litre was taken from part of the deepest surviving deposit and at basal level; it produced 26 grammes of charcoal above 2mm in size, which was surprisingly little, given the size of the sample taken.

Charcoal analyses (App I) shows that alder was the dominant species followed closely by hazel. A C¹⁴ date will be pursued for this site as it is the first burnt mound to be discovered in the area (but see below for another).

	
Pl 1. The feature as found.	Pl 2. Sample recovered and showing in situ deposit and machine cuts.

Millbrae Plantation No 2.

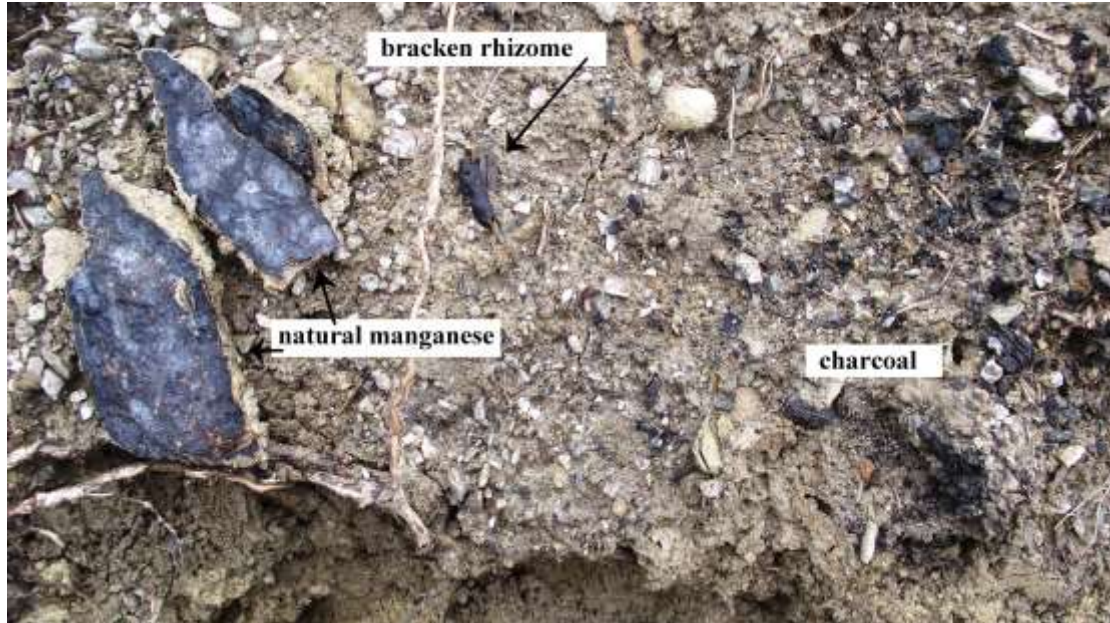
Charcoal patch.

NS 24918 81602

90m OD

Lying exposed in a disturbed area of the forest is a superficial charcoal patch which has lain buried in the soil profile which immediately overlies the till. It does not appear to form a feature such as a camp fire site, and is considered to be of relatively modern origin.

However, and interestingly only for comparison purposes, there are stones covered in dark brown natural manganese deposit, and black bracken rhizome in the same place (PI 3), both of which could lead to confusion in identifying the charcoal. Both of these materials need to be recognised and as such this chapter may be of some use to novice students of field archaeology.



PI 3. Showing natural manganese deposit, bracken rhizome and charcoal all found together.

Millbrae Plantation No 3.

Burnt Mound.

NS 24774 81373

80m OD

Survey report

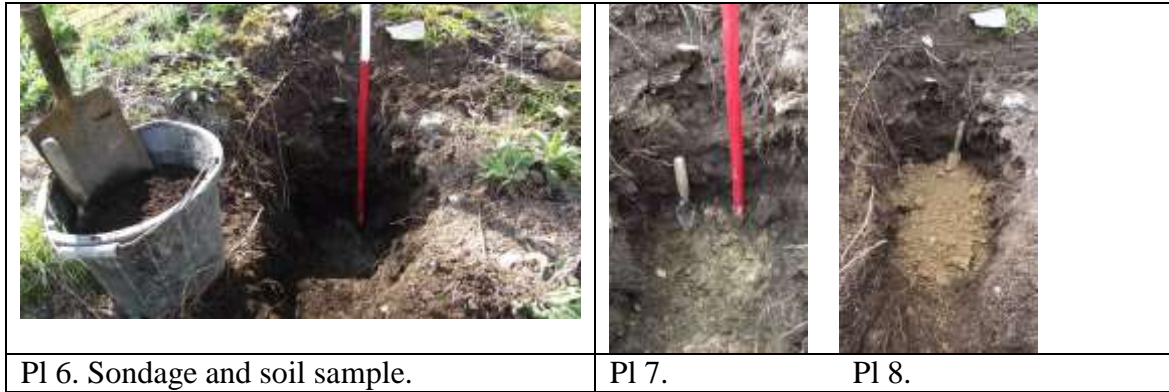
Lying 12m below the line of a drystone dyke through which a spring course flows, there is a burnt mound which measures 4m x 3m x 1m high. The mound lies on the spring course where it turns sharply to be captured by a cross cut hill drain. Originally the spring must have run straight down the hill and past the mound. The true original size of the dome shaped mound is uncertain, as some upcast from the drain may overlie it. However when tested it was shown to be composed of reddened heat affected stone (grey schist) set in a matrix of dark charcoal enriched soil.



PI 4. Looking SE over the mound towards the Clyde



PI 5. Looking NW with sondage started.



Pl 7 shows the till below the mound deposit.
 Pl 8 shows the backfilling of clean till.

Excavation Pl's 6 - 8

The dome shaped mound is as described above (Pl's 4 – 5).

A sondage of 0.4m square and 0.75m deep was cut into the southern side of the mound to recover a charcoal sample at the base of the deposit. A 10 litre soil sample was taken from which 160 grammes of charcoal above 2mm in size was sieved. Identified charcoal (App I) indicates that hazel is the dominant specie while willow and alder are secondary. A C¹⁴ date will be pursued for the site.

The sample contained only very small stones and it was seen that the stone content of the mound consisted of platy rocks, which is the natural cleavage of the local schist, all the mound stone was discoloured by heat. The entire deposit was biologically active with roots reaching the base, bracken rhizome was especially prevalent.

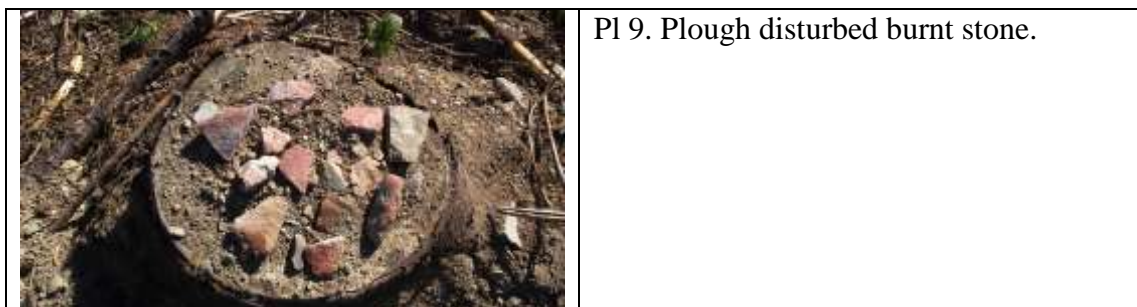
The sondage was backfilled completely with clean unburnt cream coloured till (Pl 8) in order to differentiate in future between the disturbed and undisturbed parts of the deposit, a standard practice which the writer adopts.

Millbrae Plantation No 4.

Burnt Mound scatter. NS 24912 81223 65m OD

Survey report

Lying at the base of the hill slope a scatter of burnt rock (Pl 9) and charcoal betrays the presence of a burnt mound deposit. The material has been scooped from a forestry borrow pit which has been nearly completely backfilled with roots and brash obscuring the exact location, however, a small in situ patch of the same deposit is visible at the above NGR.






Excavation report

After clearing brush from the furrow (Pl's 10-11) it became evident that a deposit survived on each side of the machine cut, which was 1m wide. On the northern side a fairly level layer of six stones lay (Pl 11) and charcoal could be seen among and above them, all in section, this was for c1.5m in length and occasional charcoal pieces were noted at each side of the stone layer. On the opposite side stones and charcoal were also visible for about 1m, but although in a layer with the charcoal, the stones were not flat or as large as those on the other side, however it was obvious that all the stones on each side had been heat affected to some extent and were reddened.

Circa 2 square metres were excavated on the north side and 1m on the other side to reveal the full extent of the feature (Pl 12) which had been truncated by the plough. The setting of stones on the north side extended only for about 0.5m from the machine cut, and they formed an arc in the undisturbed area, the stones on the other side were slightly more amorphous in character, but it was shown that on each side the charcoal lay between and above the stones and not below them. Under the larger flat stones only a distinct layer of natural brown manganese was seen, similar to that observed in other excavations in this report. Nearly all of the stones were reddened by the effect of heat indicating a wood bonfire had taken place above them, no scorching of the surrounding or underlying till was seen and this may indicate the event was a single and perhaps short lived one, also suggested by some of the larger charcoal fragments.

The entire feature is estimated as having been 2.5m by 1.5m in area and like other places in this project, it is believed that the borrow pit was dug into the former plough furrow of the original forest planting, thus the site was probably disturbed at that time also. The surrounding sections showed that the feature had been dug through the upper ground surface to lay the stones on the till, forming a fire pit with a hearth, up to 0.3m of sandy/clayey soil lay above the undisturbed parts of the feature.

All of the stones and charcoal deposit were removed by excavation showing only the natural till (and manganese) below.

	
<p>Pl 10. Where is it? Beside the lopper.</p>	<p>Pl 11. Showing stones at furrow edge.  Pl 12. Showing entire site</p>

Charcoal was bulk sampled from three areas as seen on Pl 12 and the results of sieving are given below. Much of the charcoal appeared to be cemented within a matrix of creamy coloured clay; consequently the weights are biased to include grit and mineral encrustation.

Charcoal	sample size	2mm	0.3mm	comment
Sample No 1	8 litre	310 grammes	yes	twig roundwood
Sample No 2	8 litre	340 grammes	yes	twig roundwood
Sample No 3	2 litre	39 grammes	no	---

Sample No 2 was analysed (App I) and showed that alder was dominant with willow and hazel included.

Discussion

Before excavation the site was wrongly interpreted as a burnt mound deposit, and it is now clear that it was a fire place for an unknown purpose but that a stone hearth had been carefully laid on the till after the upper ground surface had been removed. Since nothing else was found the purpose of the site is not known other than it is probably pre historic on the basis of it being covered the way it was.

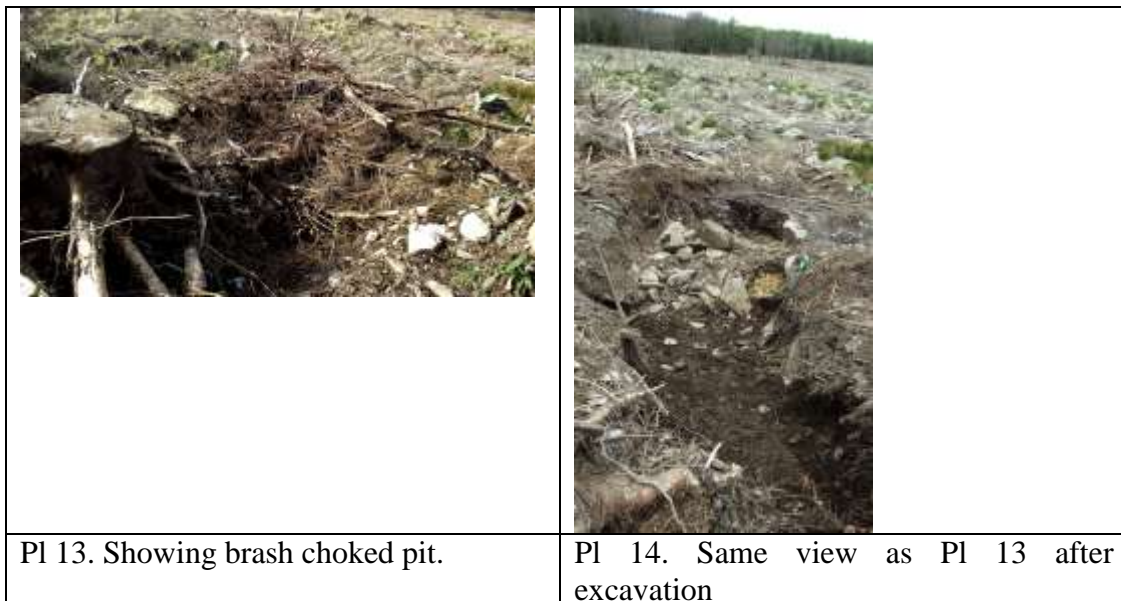
It is unlikely that the site will be dated on the basis of not knowing its purpose.

Millbrae Plantation No 5.

Burnt Mound scatter. NS 24881 81375 65m OD

Survey report

Lying at the base of the hill slope a scatter of burnt rock and charcoal betrays the presence of a burnt mound deposit. The material has been scooped from a forestry borrow pit which has been completely backfilled with roots and brash obscuring the exact location, however, several near complete pot boilers are among the debris. It is likely that this site utilised the same spring course (now gone) as the burnt mound directly upslope from it and near the dyke (Site No 3 above).



Excavation report

Despite the presence of typical burnt mound material being scattered around the area (above), the source has eluded discovery. An enormous quantity of brash was removed from the machine cut trench, the only possible source of the tree mound material which included the charcoal and burnt stones. The entire trench for a distance of over 6m and 3m wide was cleared to reveal its sides and beyond, but no burnt deposit was encountered, numerous flat rocks suggested the presence of a cairn but this was also inconclusive and no charcoal or burnt stones were found among them. The edges of the borrow pit were cut down to the cream coloured till but nothing was found other than a crust of naturally deposited manganese at the base of the stones.

It is possible that the machine removed the entire deposit of burnt material which may have been rather superficial, however the presence of burnt and broken pot boilers along with other reddened stone and charcoal can really only suggest a burnt mound activity had taken place at this location, albeit on a very limited scale.

No samples were recovered from the site other than broken pot boilers.

Millbrae Plantation No 6.

Scatter of iron slag.

NS 24739 81179 70m OD

Survey report

Scattered for about 8m in diameter on either side of a forestry borrow pit were lumps of iron slag up to c150mm in size. The pit was totally obscured by forestry brash making the exact location of the material source obscure, also there was no indication of charcoal or other fuel. A much corroded 8" nail was also found nearby but whether it is associated with the site is uncertain, analyses of the nail and slag may determine if it is. The nail does have iron content and weighs 89 grammes.



Pl 15. Site location below brash.



Pl 16. Slag layer below tree trunks. The stumps were not removed and the ground between them was left as a baulk.



Pl 17. Slag layer with charcoal and baked clay. Location of sondage.

Excavation report

The machine cut borrow pit was cleared of compressed brush up to 2m deep (Pl 15) and for a distance of 5m to determine the true extent of the deposit in the forest trench (Fig 2); it was shown that a layer of iron slag c150mm deep lay directly on the hard till and with a loose layer of the same material on top, also c150mm deep, above this was a layer of grey stone free sandy soil which was the same as the surrounding area. It was unclear if the ground had been cleared of soil prior to the slag being deposited, perhaps the weight of the slag may have caused it to permeate any soil surface and subsume it after the event. The slag lay on each side of the forest trench but it was obvious that the machine had cut the deposit transversely as it was 4.5m long on the north side but only 2m long on the opposite side.

The new borrow pit was cut along the pre existing forest furrow for the original planting, it became clear that the latest machine disturbance had only clipped the surviving edges of the deposit as the amount of material found lying around the site was insufficient had the entire original deposit been cut through during the recent forestry operations, therefore the site has been disturbed twice by plough action.

Two tree trunks lay on the north side of the deposit and one on the south. The ground to the north and to a lesser extent the south was excavated to give a trench of about 15square metres in total, this determined the true extent of the original and surviving deposit. A halo of about 1m wide around the hard slag on the north side had tinted the cream coloured till an orange colour.

The entire deposit was exposed showing it had originally measured c6m long by just over 2m wide, the long axis running up the hill slope, it was consistently the same depth and with the same stratigraphy and with a bumpy upper surface appearance everywhere. The numerous pieces which had been removed by machine showed that the deposit mainly consisted of rounded nodules of slag.

A sondage of 0.3m square was taken as a sample (PL 18) (Slag Sample No 1, results below), this was the only part of the deposit which was removed in the excavation, but various disturbed samples of the slag were retrieved from the surrounding new tree mounds, some has been left on site. The position of the sondage was chosen because charcoal appeared there as well as reddish baked clay which does not appear to be either ceramic or brick.

Charcoal above 2mm in size amounted to 37 grammes, however this weight includes some grit from the slag. The dominant specie was oak, however small amounts of birch and hazel were also present. C¹⁴ dating of the site will be pursued if funds can be obtained for that purpose.

Lying to the NE and nearby on the ground surface is a massive flat surfaced erratic (Pl 19), a limited amount of excavation was carried out around its edges to establish if any deposits existed there and if any evidence for the use of the stone survived. Nothing was found to associate the stone with the activity other than its proximity, the stone lay directly on the cream coloured till and no charcoal or slag residues at all existed beside the rock.

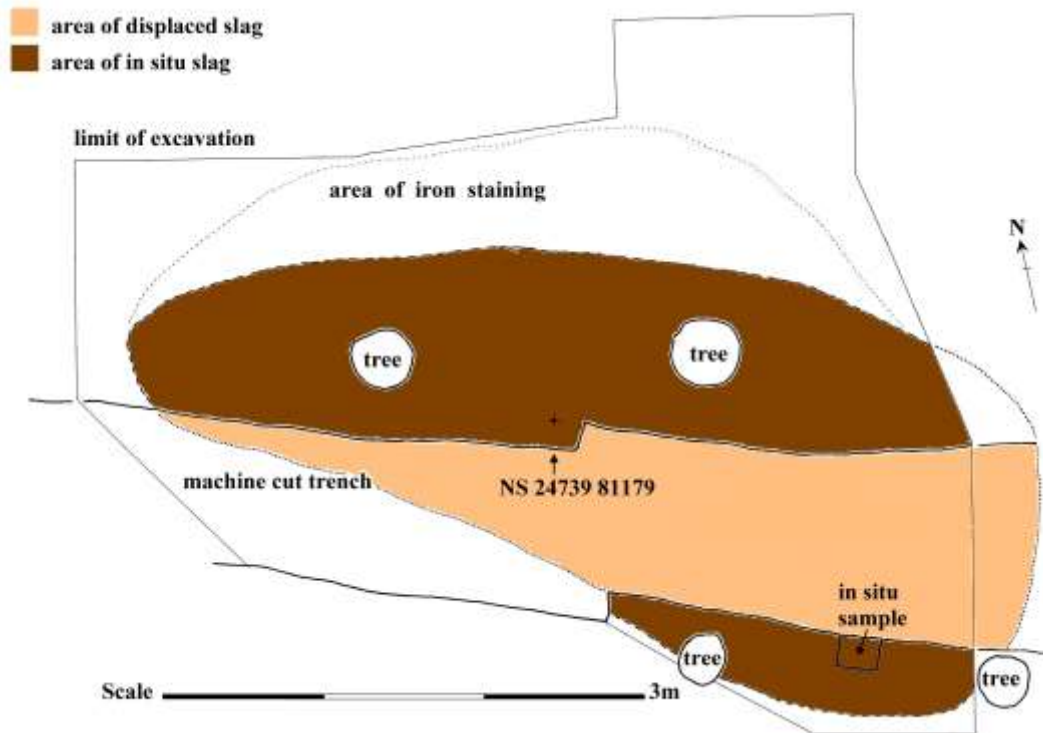


Fig 2. Excavation trench.



Pl 18. Sondage showing depth of slag on till and bulk sample taken.



Pl 19. Showing the nearby stone with gathered lumps of slag.

The heavy slag is assumed to be ferrous although it does not appear to have any metallic content, showing no reaction to a metal detector or a magnet, tiny pieces of slag grit are however attracted to a magnet. Some slag pieces have gas bubble cavities ranging from tiny to larger vugs. The exterior surfaces are generally orange brown but in some cases show black glassy slag sometimes with smoothed surfaces indicating the upper surfaces when molten. Pieces with a brassy appearance in broken sections may indicate iron pyrite although this is not conclusive. Other pieces show bright blue/green specs which are taken to be vivianite and which appeared after exposure to air. Pieces with various appearance including the baked clay have been recovered as samples, only expert analyses of the slags can determine their true composition, descriptions of samples given here should therefore be read as ‘non specialist’, as should the following information gleaned from the web and which is given for readers not familiar with iron slag sites:

Iron ore is usually combined with oxygen and sulphur in rocks.

Roasting the ore in pits at temperatures of c800⁰C drives off the sulphur and other unwanted elements.

Smelting involves heating the ore to around 1200⁰C in an atmosphere that is at least 75% carbon monoxide which strips away the oxygen, reducing the iron oxide to iron. Other minerals are melted down to a liquid mass called slag.

Charcoal creates the heat and the carbon monoxide.

Oxygen is supplied to a furnace through a tube called a tuyere.

Furnaces can be ceramic, stone or clay.

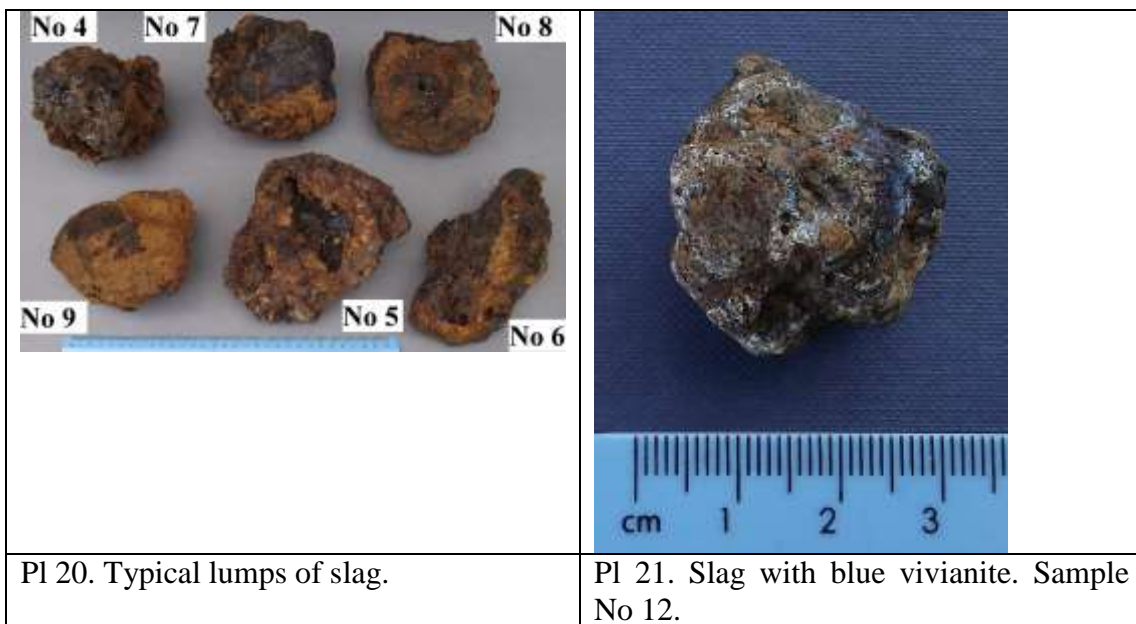
Cast iron has high levels of carbon (2.4%).

Bloom has to be worked hot to drive off impurities.

Iron never seems to be found at sites.

Only in a blast furnace do you get liquid iron due to the higher temperatures.

Vivianite changes colour from white/grey to blue on exposure to air, it is often seen on old bones.



List of slag samples

Sample No 1

An in situ sample of 0.3m square and consisting of 14 litres in total. The charcoal recovered is listed separately. The sample was washed of soil and rootlets and consisted of one principal chunk weighing 3.31Kg, and several smaller lumps, the residue also contained a few pieces of what appeared to be baked clay.

The remainder of the sample including all residues was retained but includes some small stones. This is the only in situ sample from the site.

The remaining samples were all gathered around the site having been displaced by the machine digger, all have been washed of soil and surface residues.

Sample No 2 214 grammes Plate 22

Shows smoothed upper surface of molten slag.

Sample No 3 205 grammes

Section shows 'brassy' appearance taken to be iron pyrite?

Sample No 4 1.171 Kg

Rounded mass with jaggy edges and showing vivianite on the surface.

Sample No 5 1.269 Kg

Rounded mass with a vug, smoothed interior, jaggy surface elsewhere.

Sample No 6 724 grammes

Crust like piece showing 'brassy' section.

Sample No 7 1.277 Kg

Rounded jaggy massy suggesting the base of a kiln?

Sample No 8 913 grammes

Rounded jaggy massy suggesting the base of a kiln?

Sample No 9 1.456 Kg

Rounded jaggy massy suggesting the base of a kiln?

Sample No 10 931 grammes

Rounded jaggy mass.

Sample No 11 1.159 Kg

Rounded jaggy mass.

Sample No 12 17 grammes Plate 21

Rounded piece showing bright blue vivianite.

Sample No 13 59 grammes Plate 23

Conjoining pieces showing vivianite on the upper smoothed surface, with reddish coloured baked clay on the reverse side, good sections showing gas bubbles and glassy matrix of the slag.

Sample No 14 26 grammes
Fragment with vivianite showing.

Sample No 15 115 grammes
Two conjoining chunks showing 'brassy' interior which may be iron pyrite?

Sample No 16 139 grammes
Small rounded mass.

Sample No 17 232 grammes
Jaggy mass showing reddish baked clay surface.

Sample No 18 57 grammes
Jaggy mass showing reddish baked clay surface.

Sample No 19 32 grammes
Jaggy mass showing reddish baked clay surface.

Discussion

The evidence shows that iron smelting was taking place at the location described above although nothing was found directly to indicate how it was being done, but the baked clay may be indicative of a furnace or lining. The limited excavation provided only the full extent of the deposit of hard slag, and although some further work was done around the large and nearby flat stone, which could have been used as an anvil or preparation area for beating out the bloom for example, this was shown to be unlikely since nothing was found beside it. The location on the side of the gently sloping hill seems to be typical for such sites, taking advantage of natural draft to aid in the process of smelting. Water does not appear to have been present in this location.

Slag analyses and a C¹⁴ date will be pursued for this site as it is unique in the area.

Millbrae Plantation No 7.

Charcoal deposit. NS 24741 81178 80 OD

Survey report

Lying on sloping ground and buried below till was a lens of charcoal and burnt soil, the latter being reddened by the effects of heat. The deposit measured in section about 1m long and >150mm deep, although much of it was less deep, it lay on the NE side of a forestry furrow and was not seen on the opposite side of the machine cut.

Excavation report PI's 24--26

Excavation showed the surviving deposit to be 0.75m long by 0.25m wide and 150mm deep, however, a surviving edge to a pit on its NE side was only 75mm deep. The charcoal was seen to interleaf with reddened burnt soil in ad hoc layers, suggesting various phases of burning. Originally the pit may have been c0.8m in diameter and certainly deeper than that which was found, having been truncated horizontally by hill creep as was seen in section before work commenced.

The entire deposit was taken as a sample of 14litres. It was wet sieved into 2mm and 0.3mm sieves. This yielded a high percentage of charcoal; the material above 2mm in

size weighing a total of 247 grammes of which 7.5 grammes of cereal (Pl's 27-28) and at least two other seed types were hand picked from the flots, at least three different species of seed have been observed (Pl 27). A high number of seeds remain in both the 2mm and 0.3mm flots. A small number of hazel nut shell fragments and pieces of twig round wood were also present in the charcoal assemblage. A 2 litre sub sample of the deposit has been retained unprocessed for future use.

Analyses of the charcoal (App I) shows that oak and hazel are the dominant species followed by smaller amounts of alder, birch and holly. However the quantity and variety of grain and other seed types was significant and these as fully discussed below in Appendix I.



Pl 25. Showing surviving edge of pit



Pl 24. The charcoal filled pit edge



Pl 26. Pit edge showing burnt soil layers



Pl 27. Grain and other seeds. mm scale.



Pl 28. Selection of grain.

Discussion

Because of the presence of hulled barley the specialist (App I) suggests that the site can be no earlier than the Iron Age and possibly much later, it may represent a cooking fire, although because of the slope on which it lay, there is unlikely to be any form of habitation in the vicinity.

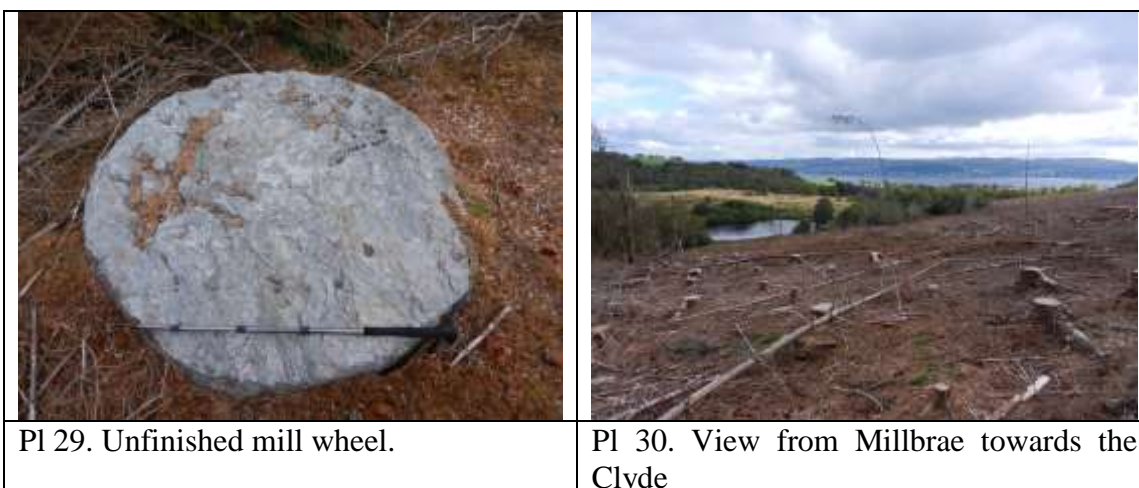
A C¹⁴ date funded by Tilhill Forestry is awaited for this site as it is unique the area.

Millbrae Plantation No 9.

PI 29

Unfinished mill wheel. NS 24836 81531 80mOD

Found in the recently felled woodlands on the east flank of Toman Dubh and about 60m below the Millbrae Plantation track, and lying between the confluence of two unnamed spring courses there is an unfinished mill wheel, made from local schistose rock. The circular stone measures; 4.62m circumference, 1.4m in diameter by 0.4m thick, it has a central indentation presumably made to score the stone with a compass for shaping.



Addenda

The original survey report gives a small sherd of green glaze pottery found on the hill, apart from that the only other objects were occasional modern bottles; however a series of rotten timbers with telephone insulators were noted at intervals across the upper face of the hill indicating an early telephone overhead line, presumably between Rosneath and Kilcreggan. Also noted and near the pond were a series of large timber beams with heavy galvanised chains attached, these were pulled from the peat by machine when drain cutting was carried out, the driver intimates that several others lay at the base of the drain. The beams are assumed to be associated with American war time activity as the pond was used as the water supply for the USA Base at Rosneath.

Acknowledgment

Permission to carry out the survey and excavation work was given by Mr Stephen Tong, Forestry Manager with Tilhill Forestry Ltd and to whom we are grateful. Tilhill Forestry also generously paid for the charcoal analyses and C¹⁴ dating of Site No 7, the result of the date will be added to this report as an addendum.

The following members of NCAS worked on the survey and excavation: Sandra Kelly, Alastair McIntyre, Alasdair Jamieson, Tam Ward directed the work and processed all samples.

APPENDIX I

Millbrae Forest: Archaeobotanical Analysis

Jennifer Miller August 2016

1. Summary

During investigations arising from forestry clearance on Millbrae Forest, Rosneath, North Clyde Archaeological Society identified seven sites of archaeological interest. Carbonised plant material from samples representing five of those features was analysed to provide dating material and to aid in the interpretation of provenance. Charcoal from Sites 1, 3 and 4 were dominated by alder with hazel, which would be in keeping with the archaeological interpretation of burnt mound material. By contrast, the assemblage observed within slag rich Site 6 was chiefly oak, the preferred taxon for smelting of iron ore when coal is not available. Site 7 was different again, containing a charcoal assemblage reflecting hearth waste together with well over 1000 mixed cereal grains and a variety of crop weeds and hazelnut shell. Collectively this implies domestic activity including recurrent cereal processing ahead of consumption. It may reflect debitage from a cereal parching kiln/hearth. Oats and hulled barley predominated. When found together, these two taxa frequently relate to either later prehistory or medieval activity. However, the presence of small numbers of hulled wheats (spelt and emmer) would suggest that in this case later prehistoric activity could perhaps be more likely.

2. Introduction

One bulk sample from each of five sites at Millbrae was processed for the recovery of charcoal and other carbonised botanical material. The sites included features interpreted as burnt mounds (Sites 1 & 3); burnt mound scatter (Site 4); scatter of iron slag (Site 6) and charcoal deposit (Site 7). It was anticipated that analysis of carbonised plant remains would aid in the interpretation of these features, whilst providing material suitable for AMS radiocarbon dating to help assign a chronology of use.

3. Methodology

Flotation & Sorting

Bulk soil samples were processed by North Clyde Archaeological Society, as reported by Ward (2016). The resultant material was dried and bagged for submission for specialist analysis. Upon receipt, the volume of each sample was recorded and it was passed through calibrated sieves of 4mm, 2mm and 500µm mesh diameters to facilitate analysis and enable record to be made of the relative volumes of each fraction size.

Botanical Material Identification

Charcoal identification was undertaken using the reflected light of a Zenith Metam P-1 metallurgical microscope at x40 magnification. For each sample, 20 fragments

>4mm diameter were selected randomly and identified as completely as preservation would allow. Charcoal identification was undertaken with reference to Schweingruber (1990). One young aged round-wood fragment of charcoal from a short lived tree type was selected for AMS radiocarbon dating from each site.

The volume of cereals within the sample from Site 7 was considerable. Consequently, a 50ml subsample of flint <4mm>2mm was sorted fully and all seeds and up to 50 cereal grains of each classification was fully identified. Where more than 50 of each cereal type were present, the total number was weighed and the total extrapolated arbitrarily. This was sufficient to determine taxon composition and frequency of occurrence.

Cereal grains, seeds and other macroplant remains were identified as specifically as preservation would allow using a Zeiss Stemi 2000-C binocular microscope at variable magnifications of between X8 - X45 with associated Schott cold light source. Confirmation of cereal grain morphology was achieved with reference to Jacomet (1987; 2006), whilst seed identification was confirmed by comparison with Beijerinck (1947), Cappiers (2006) and the Dickson botanical reference collection. Plant nomenclature follows Stace (1997) except cereals which conform to Zohary & Hopf (2000).

4. Results

Full results are presented in Table 1 (below). Exact numbers of identified environmental materials are presented within the table. Estimated figures are given where counting was not appropriate.

Site 1: Burnt Mound

Charcoal of alder (*Alnus*) and hazel (*Corylus*) was identified in roughly similar quantities. The alder was larger trunk wood whilst smaller round wood of hazel may have been kindling or additional fuel. Alder is regularly encountered on prehistoric burnt mound sites. As such, this assemblage would be in keeping with the interpretation mooted during excavation of this feature as a burnt mound or other similar hearth.

Site 3: Burnt Mound & Site 5: Burnt Mound Scatter

Although numbers of identified fragments for each type varied between these two features, their taxon composition was entirely similar, including alder trunk wood with smaller round wood of hazel and willow (*Salix*). As with Site 1, the assemblage would support the archaeological interpretation of a burnt mound or similar such hearth deposit.

Site 6: Scatter of Iron Slag

Large volumes of iron slag were observed within and on top of the soil at Site 6, very probably disturbed during forestry clearance. A moderate volume of charcoal was recovered from a bulk sample from this feature, from which birch (*Betula*), hazel and especially oak were observed. Some of the oak was in poor condition, suggesting either intense or prolonged heating. Oak has a long history with archaeometallurgy (Tylecote 1962; Dickson & Dickson 2000; Gale & Cutler 2000) and this assemblage is strongly suggestive of a medieval or later bloomery site.

Site 7: Charcoal Deposit

The charcoal assemblage from Site 7 was indicative of the collection of domestic hearth fuel from local mixed deciduous woodland. Alder, birch, holly (*Ilex*) and especially hazel and oak round wood were recorded, together with an extensive cereal assemblage that included cultivated/black oats (*Avena sativa/strigosa*) but especially hulled six-row barley (*Hordeum vulgare var vulgare*). Oats and barley are both cereals that cope well with poor weather or marginal land, unlike the less tolerant wheats that require autumn planting on good soil followed by a fairly good summer (Miller 2002). Hulled barley has been the primary cereal in Scotland since the Iron Age (Dickson & Dickson 2000). The combination of oats and hulled barley is frequently indicative of sites of either later prehistoric or medieval periods, the former reflecting the move towards a warmer, wetter climate and the latter reflecting the need to feed the increasing impoverished urban population that could not afford expensive wheat. The presence at this site also of small numbers of spelt (*Triticum spelta*) and emmer (*Triticum dicoccum*), both early (glumed) wheats, would suggest that a later prehistoric date for this feature cannot be excluded. Grains of spelt wheat would imply Iron Age occupation or later. They may have been relicts within the crop or residual from a separate processing event.

Millbrae	Site No.	1	3	4	6	7
	Sample	-	-	2	-	-
Total Charcoal						
Charcoal >4mm		30ml	50ml	600ml	40ml	400ml
Charcoal <4mm		60ml	150ml	50ml	60ml	500ml
ID (>4mm)		20 fgmts	20 fgmts	20 fgmts	20 fgmts	20 fgmts
AMS option (charcoal)		<i>Corylus</i>	<i>Corylus</i>	<i>Corylus</i>	<i>Betula</i>	<i>Corylus</i>
Charcoal	Common Name					
<i>Alnus</i>	alder	11 (1.19g)	5 (0.59)	12 (7.39g)	-	1 (0.06g)
<i>Betula</i>	birch	-	-	-	5 (0.72g)	1 (0.07g)
<i>Corylus</i>	hazel	9 (1.06g)	11 (2.00g)	3 (2.94g)	1 (0.09g)	8 (0.82g)
<i>Ilex</i>	holly	-	-	-	-	1 (0.07g)
<i>Quercus</i>	oak	-	-	-	12 (2.40g)	9 (1.23g)
<i>cf Quercus</i>	<i>cf oak</i>	-	-	-	2 (0.26g)	-
<i>Salix</i>	willow	-	4 (0.29g)	7 (4.83g)	-	-
Cereals (carbonised)						50ml ID
<i>Avena sativa/strigosa</i>	oat/bristle oat	-	-	-	-	>200
<i>Avena cf fatua</i>	<i>cf wild oat</i>	-	-	-	-	>50
<i>cf Avena sp fgmt</i>	<i>cf oat fgmt.</i>	-	-	-	-	>200
<i>Hordeum vulgare var vulgare</i>	hulled barley	-	-	-	-	>500
<i>Hordeum vulgare sl</i>	barley	-	-	-	-	>200
<i>Triticum dicoccum</i>	emmer	-	-	-	-	2
<i>Triticum spelta</i>	spelt	-	-	-	-	3
<i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i>	emmer/spelt	-	-	-	-	3
<i>cf Triticum sp</i>	<i>cf wheat</i>	-	-	-	-	20
Indeterminate fragment	Indet cereal	-	-	-	-	>500
Macros (carbonised)						
<i>cf Caryophyllaceae</i>	<i>cf Pink family</i>	-	-	-	-	1
<i>Chenopodium sp</i>	goosefoots	-	-	-	-	8
<i>Corylus</i> nutshell fgmt.	hazel	-	-	-	-	>50
<i>cf Fallopia sp fgmt.</i>	<i>cf knotweeds</i>	-	-	-	-	4
<i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i>	pale persicaria	-	-	-	-	14
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	redshank	-	-	-	-	5
<i>Persicaria sp</i>	knotweeds	-	-	-	-	6
Polygonaceae NFI	Knotweed family	-	-	-	-	2
Rosaceae NFI	Rose family	-	-	-	-	2
Indeterminate fragment	Indet seed	-	-	-	-	7

Table 1: Millbrae Forest Botanical Results

5. Discussion

Charcoal

The charcoal assemblage reflected mixed deciduous local woodland, including short-lived scrub. There is some evidence of taxon selection for particular purposes, with

alder predominant in features interpreted as burnt mounds, as is so frequently the case (Dickson & Dickson 2000; Miller & Ramsay 2009). The predominance of oak trunk wood within Site 6 (slag site) was also significant in this respect. Oak is very strong, resilient and resistant to stress. As a result it is strongly associated within the archaeological record for structural uses (Gale & Cutler 2000). However, oak charcoal is also the wood fuel of choice for situations requiring high temperatures with prolonged burning, such as metalworking (Tylecote 1962) as is envisaged here. Oak trunk wood would be unlikely to have been used as a hearth or cereal parching kiln fuel as the heat is too intense, although small twigs or branches may have been gathered along with other kindling. The mixed charcoal assemblage at Site 7 is strongly suggestive of mixed hearth fuel.

Cereals and Other Seeds

Over 1000 cereal grains were present within a 50ml subsample of carbonised material from Site 7, interpreted during excavation as suggestive of a series of burning events. The mixed cereal assemblage here would support the recurrent nature of hearths envisaged, with large numbers of both oats and hulled barley recorded, plus small numbers of wheats.

Occasional carbonised seeds from arable/ruderal plants including goosefoots, pinks and especially wild oats and various members of the knotweed family were observed. This assemblage is strongly indicative of arable cultivation. Such seeds are regularly recorded from archaeological contexts representing cereal processing waste (Kenward & Hall 1995). Rose family seeds may reflect food debris whilst hazel nutshell has long association with kindling and disposal on hearths throughout history.

6. Bibliography

- Beijerinck, W 1947 *Zadenatlas der Nederlandsche Flora*. Wageningen: Veenman & Zonen.
- Cappers, R T J, Bekker, R M & Jans, G E A 2006 *Digital Seed Atlas of the Netherlands*. Groningen: Barkhuis Publishing.
- Dickson, C A & Dickson, J H 2000 *Plants and People in Ancient Scotland*. Tempus, Stroud.
- Edlin, H 1973 *Woodland Crafts of Britain*. David & Charles, Newton Abbot.
- Gale, R & Cutler, D 2000 *Plants in Archaeology*. Westbury Publishing, Otley.
- Jacomet, S 1987 *Prähistorische Getreidefunde, Eine Anleitung zur Bestimmung Prähistorischer Gersten und Weizen Funde*. Basel: Herausgegeben im Eigenverlag.
- Jacomet, S 2006 *Identification of cereal remains from archaeological sites* 2nd Ed. Translated partly by James Greig. Unpublished teaching guide, Archaeobotany Lab, IPAS, Basel University.
- Kenward, H K & Hall, A R 1995 Biological Evidence from Anglo-Scandinavian Deposits at 16-22 Coppergate. *The Archaeology of York* 14/7. Council for British Archaeology, London.
- Miller J J 2002 Oakbank Crannog; Building a House of Plants. Pp 35-43 in Ballin-Smith B & Banks I (eds) *In the Shadow of the Brochs*. Tempus, Stroud.
- Miller, J J & Ramsay, S 2009 'The botanical remains' in Banks, I, Duffy, P and MacGregor, G, *Archaeology of Landscape Change in South-West Scotland, 6000 bc –*

ad 1400: Excavations at William Grant and Sons Distillery, Girvan. [Scottish Archaeological Internet Reports](#), 32 . pp. 1-45.

Schweingruber, F H 1990 *Anatomy of European Woods*. Haupt, Berne & Stuttgart.

Stace, C 1997 *New Flora of the British Isles*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Tylecote, R F 1962 *Metallurgy in Archaeology*. Arnold, London.

Ward, T 2016 ‘*The excavation and sampling of various features discovered at Millbrae Forest on the southern tip of Rosneath Peninsula, Argyll.*’ Unpublished report, North Clyde Archaeological Society.

Zohary, D & Hopf, M 2000 *Domestication of Plants in the Old World*. 3rd Ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press